

as the scandalous disclosures in connection with the Education Depository bear witness. And in this case, the truth, unhappily, has not been fully told. Unfortunately, under the party system, the truth, in this as in other cases of malfesance in office, is rarely ever made known. What service a few earnest men, of broad and independent views, could have rendered to our educational interests during the session, need not here be dwelt upon. Each of our readers will not fail to form his own, and doubtless a just, estimate on the point. With us, he will, no doubt, have looked for some wise results of counsel, and with us, too, have been disappointed. There has been a heap of palaver, and no end of motions made and returns called for; but how these have illumined the dark places of Mr. Crooks's administrative policy, or advanced the general well-being of education, he would be a bold partisan who would say. There has been thrust and parry in the House, but it has been a mimic warfare, with little of strategy and less of sense. Upper Canada College matters are just where they were a year ago, with the same fruitless talk gone over, and closing with a rehearsal of the Minister's petulant threat of last session. Of the reconstructed Central Committee nothing has been told us; and we are as wise as we were about the University appointments. Much, of course, has been solemnly taken into consideration—only to pass into that waste-basket of ministerial cogitation, never again to see the light. Thus are we governed, and for this are we taxed. One more, and a fitting, scene remains to be enacted—to dismiss, with their country's gratitude, our representatives to their homes, and to invoke Heaven's blessing on their beneficent work!

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#### UPPER CANADA COLLEGE.

In the matter of Upper Canada College, the Minister of Education has, for two sessions, been eager to pipe the music which shall woo assent to the appropriation of \$30,000 to enlarge the boarding-house of

the institution, but our legislators haven't danced. In every controversy untenable positions are taken up, and it may be, in regard to this question, that while Mr. Crooks has himself provoked discussion further than it was, perhaps, wise or profitable to go, an attitude of unreasonable hostility to the College has been the result of broaching the subject. A wise minister, however, would have proceeded with greater tact, and a less pragmatic one would have refrained from bringing such a hornet's nest about his ears. But this is not the manner of Mr. Crooks. On the other hand, a rude handling of the subject in the Legislature may work mischief, not only to the institution specially attacked, but to the numerous local institutions which, with the College, represent the broad interests of Secondary education. This, indeed, would be a misfortune, and its impidence ought to inspire caution and discretion. The subject, we cannot help thinking, however, is one alone for the consideration of specialists in education, who can take a calm and broad survey of all the circumstances of the case, and are not likely to be influenced either by partisanship or by passion. In the case of an institution which pleads antiquity in its defence, a reference to specialists would seem to be the more urgent, as the handling of the subject necessarily becomes more delicate. At the same time, we may reasonably be impatient with the axiom that abuses are consecrated by time, and demur to the notion that, in the case of the College, there is no call for the appliance of cold, unsentimental criticism. In the original diversion of the funds to the exclusive benefit of the College, there is a real though ancient grievance. That it should crop up now is but a proof of the unrighteousness of wrong, and of the working of a healthy endeavour, however interested the motive, to right it. Mr. Crooks is unwise in not recognizing this, and he will be still more unwise if he does not see that the ever-increasing rivalry of the High Schools and Institutes is bound to fight this point out, and to lessen, as the race goes on between them and the College, the advantage which the latter at present has over them. For the