

Copy of a Correspondence which has recently passed between the Provincial Secretary and the Bishop of Toronto, on the subject of the proposed establishment, by Royal Charter, of an University in Upper Canada, exclusively connected with the Church of England. Your Lordship will perceive from the latter portion of the Correspondence, that this Government is prepared to afford the Bishop all the aid in its power towards procuring, for the Educational Institution which he desires to establish, a Charter of Incorporation, giving the usual facilities for managing its property and affairs. With reference to the more perfect Charter sought by his Lordship, the Government apprehends that the multiplication of Colleges having authority to grant degrees in Arts in this Province, at the present stage of its growth in wealth and population, is open to very serious objection. The authority in question would not, it is believed, have been granted to the denominational Colleges of Queen's and Victoria, which are referred to by the Bishop, if the Charter had been originally framed on a comprehensive principle, or if the provisions of the Provincial Act 7 William IV. cap. 18, under which that Institution came into operation, had been carried out according to its true intent and meaning. The Government still entertain the hope that the members of the Church, as well as of other denominations possessing incorporated Colleges, will be induced to participate in the advantages offered to Students by the Toronto University. While, therefore, it would view with satisfaction the establishment of a College, in connection with the Church of England, having authority to confer degrees in Divinity, it would consider the grant of such a Charter as the Lord Bishop has applied for, premature until it be shewn that this hope must be abandoned, and that the members of the Church are generally at one, not only as to the principle of an exclusive University, but also as to the terms in which the Charter constituting it should be received. As regards the last-mentioned point, I beg to call your Lordship's attention to the first part of the enclosed Correspondence, which has reference to an application addressed to me by the Honorable Mr. DeBlaquière, for a Copy of the Draft submitted to your Lordship by the Bishop. From a further correspondence between the Lord Bishop and Mr. DeBlaquière, which has been published in the newspapers, I infer that the Bishop considers that the Draft in question is still open to revision and correction. If so, I cannot but think that it is fortunate that your Lordship declined to accede to the application for a Charter which the Bishop pressed upon you while in England. For, had it once issued in terms of the Draft, its provisions could not have been afterwards altered in any material point, without giving rise to questions touching interference with Chartered Rights, akin to those which have so grievously embittered the controversies that have taken place, at various periods, with respect to the amendment of the provisions of the original Charter of King's College. Under all the circumstances of the case, I trust that your Lordship will

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