

nations is shown by the Appendix, printed in the Journals of the House of Assembly, for 1856, to have been confined to 1854.

With these remarks, Sir, I proceed immediately to the subjects which claim the special attention of the Committee, and shall notice in the first place the pretensions and statements of Dr. *Wilson* alone; in the second, the statements common to both Drs. *Wilson* and *Langton*; in the third place my own estimates for the expenses of erecting buildings suited to a Provincial University; and, lastly, the questions which demand the decision and consideration of the Committee. I am to notice, then, in the first place, the pretensions and statements of Dr. *Wilson* alone. He placed himself before you as the Representative of University College, while he adverted to Mr. *Langton* as the Representative of the Senate. Sir, the assumptions Dr. *Wilson* made, as well as the manner in which he referred to others, are not unworthy the attention of Committee, or without their proper moral and useful lessons. Dr. *Wilson*, in the first place, made an eulogy on the Faculty of University College. He spoke of each member of the Faculty as characterised by some superior attainments and excellencies, and described himself, last but not least, as a man who had attained some distinction in his own country before he came to "this Canada of ours"—(his favorite expression). After this description, he said to you;—Are not we fit to be entrusted with determining the College education of your youth, one of us being from Edinburgh, another from Oxford, another from London, another from Cambridge, another from Dublin, and another from Padua, the city of "relics?" We, he continued, have anxiously devised a system of Education, and sometimes we have sat up until after midnight in doing so. This is the assumption, this the basis of many of the subsequent remarks addressed by that gentleman to the Committee. Now, Sir, I think that Dr. *Wilson*, and the other gentlemen to whom he referred, from whose attainments and abilities I wish to detract nothing, must themselves admit that they came to this country as teachers—he of English literature and language; the rest of certain other branches. He, however, seems to think they did not come for that purpose only, but for the more noble, exalted, almost legislative purpose of giving to the people of Canada a system of collegiate instruction. Dr. *Wilson* says,—Shall not we be entrusted with determining this question—we all graduates, we all men from old Universities, and will you pretend, people of Canada, to dictate to us, learned persons, what kind of superior education shall be adopted for the training of your youth? Sir, I went to Europe for the purpose of obtaining persons qualified for special work, but I did not go to them to dictate the kind of education to be given here or the manner of giving it. I procured them to carry out a system already devised for this country, not to dictate one to us, much less to do so in the assuming tone in which these words were addressed to you the other day. I think these gentlemen, whatever may be their talents, whatever may be their attainments, mistook considerably the purpose for which they were brought to this country, when they set themselves up for judges as to what kind of Superior Education the people should receive from them. The people of this country have devised a system for themselves, and these gentlemen were brought here as instruments to carry it out. When they depart from the position of laborers in the work appointed and assume to be dictators, they sadly mistake their office. There are, however, other persons besides Dr. *Wilson*, who think that because they have come across the Atlantic, they are alone wise, and that Canadians are to accept blindly the dictatorial dogmas they may put forth. Sir, although our country may be young, yet the intellect of a country does not depend upon its age. There may be a vigor of intellect, a self-reliance, an energy and perseverance in the very youth of a country, that will not bow down to exotic dictation or assumption. The people of Upper Canada know their own wants, and did not send to one gentleman from Edinburgh, another from Lon-