

to human nature, addressed a memorial to Lord Dorchester, the Commander in Chief, through Mr. Collins, Deputy Surveyor General, suggesting the means of providing for the future establishment of a decent Seminary of education, for Kingston and the surrounding Settlement, by appropriating some of the Islands in the neighbourhood, for this purpose. The memorial states, that a future not a present advantage was expected from such an appropriation; but, as the Settlements were now formed and getting compact, the education of youth became an object of such importance, as to merit the particular attention of His Majesty's Government.

Lord Dorchester, who seems to have been, at all times, anxious for the good of the Colony, was not tardy in noticing this representation, and called the attention of the Magistrates and respectable inhabitants, to the great importance of effecting a competent establishment of Clergymen and School-masters in the Settlement of Mecklenburgh, now the Midland District. As a preliminary step, he urges the expediency of cultivating the Glebes, and erecting houses for the accommodation of the Schools and Teachers; but soon after this, and before his Lordship had time to take any further measures towards the religious and moral instruction of the people, to which he seemed very much inclined, the 31st of the King was enacted, dividing the Province of Quebec into Lower and Upper Canada.

On the arrival of General Simcoe, the Lieutenant Governor of the new Province, there was too much to do for some years, in extending the Settlements, exploring the country, and organizing the different departments necessary for conducting the affairs of Government, to think of educating the people; but, on reducing these things to some regularity and order, the Lieutenant Governor turned his attention to religion and education, and anxiously revolved in his comprehensive mind, the most effectual steps for diffusing useful instruction among the settlers.

Nor was the Government at home, ever anxious to promote the prosperity of this Province, inattentive to the education of the people; for, in a letter of his Grace the Duke of Portland to General Simcoe, in 1796, he calls the attention of the Lieutenant Governor to the establishment of Schools. The Général, a man of science and literature, and a great friend to religion, was most anxiously employed in discovering the means of complying with His Majesty's