

respectively, in the relative proportion of the respective populations of the Province, according to the then last census. This determined the proportion to be given to each class of the population.

But, under this changed system of Government, it appeared that the sums accruing to Protestant institutions of Superior Education became greatly reduced in amount and altogether insufficient for the needs of the Universities and Colleges. A representation of the matter was duly made to the then Premier, who was at the same time Minister of Public Instruction, accompanied with an urgent request for additional aid.

The higher institutions of learning, which had been founded by means of purely voluntary subscriptions, and were in large part maintained by voluntary effort on the part of the friends of the Higher Education, suffered so seriously by the diminution in their grants, that it seemed as if their work would be seriously hampered if not stopped altogether. Their only hope was that the small Government grants allotted to them might be in some way supplemented.

The falling off in revenue began immediately after the passing of the Act of 1869, as may be seen in the list prepared by Mr. Rexford, as above mentioned. This state of affairs led to the application for the transference to Protestant Superior Education of the fees received from Protestant Marriage Licenses and thus to the formation of the second source of income.

2nd.—The Marriage License Fund.

The history of this Fund, as recorded in the letters and documents appended hereto, is interesting and instructive. Light is thrown on the intentions of the Government and their desire to promote, to the full extent of their power, the objects aimed at by the friends of the Higher Education in this Province. The documents* are as follows, viz. :

- No. 1. The memorandum prepared by Mr. Rexford, at the request of the Protestant Committee, submitted, 23rd November, 1887 (EDUCATIONAL RECORD, 1887, p. 356.)
- " 2. Memorandum by the late Lord Bishop of Quebec, submitted to the Committee. (EDUCATIONAL RECORD, 23rd November, 1887, p. 357.)
- " 3. Report of Mr. Rexford, 26th September, 1888.
- " 4. Letter to Dr. Heneker, 22nd May, 1893, from Sir William Dawson.
- " 5. Letter to Sir William Dawson, 21st December, 1871, from the Hon. James Ferrier.
- " 6. Letter to Sir William Dawson, 28th November, 1891, from the late Dr. J. W. Williams, Bishop of Quebec.

* Copies of these documents will appear in subsequent issues of the RECORD.