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beyond my power to deal with successfully before this House and elsewhere ; having regard, I say, to the magnitude of the question and the seriousness of it, and the interest very properly taken in it by the people of this Province. I speak, when I allude to this question and propose this legislation, first for a constituency representing a body of graduates of this University of fifteen thousand altogether, now, alas, only amounting to twelve thousand in this country, some three thousand having passed away. I speak also on behalf of an institution which has now within its borders and influence, and under its control, a body of nearly 2,400 young men of the Province of Ontario, who represent the hopes and desires of thousands of our good people ; young men who, in the future, we hope, will maintain, not only the record of the University of which they will become graduates, but will deserve well of the people of the Province. (Applause.) I may say that I also represent, and I say it, Sir, with a certain amount of pride, a majority of the members of this Legislature. (Renewed applause.) The pride which I mention is not an improper feeling ; it is based on the fact that a large majority of the members of this House are in accord with myself on this great question, and I also feel that in what I have to say on this question, and the position I have taken with reference to it, I represent the feeling of nine-tenths at least of the people of the Province of Ontario. But, Sir, did I find it necessary to look for excuses or reasons why even I might take upon myself the discussion of this great question, I might, in addition, encourage myself with the feeling that "Thrice is he armed that hath his quarrel just." (Applause.) Taking all the reasons I have mentioned and massing them together, I may fairly claim that it has not often been given to a public man of this Province, or indeed of this Dominion, to approach the discussion or presentation of a great and serious question like this with the certain knowledge that he represents, practically, the entire body of the people. (Applause.)

First, then, I propose to go hurriedly over what I may call the history of this great educational institution. I shall do so as rapidly as possible, touching, as I go along, the salient points connected with it from its inception in 1797. In that year the Crown set apart 500,000 acres of the lands of Upper Canada for the estab-