

which are altogether under Episcopalian control and confined to Episcopalian: For says the Edinburgh Reviewers, "which of the lay youth, at Oxford or Cambridge, ever attends, or thinks of attending a single lecture on Divinity? The handful destined for the church, no doubt, go to such lectures on theological matters as are there delivered.— But what young man of fortune, or what youth intended for the army and the bar, ever entered the door of a divinity lecture-room in either University?—We venture to assert, without the least fear of being contradicted, by the fact or the reason, that there is absolutely no religion taught and no attention to its observances inculcated, by the mere existence of divinity lectures, and the compliance with certain outward forms; and that, whatever is learnt or imbibed at either University, is through the operation of private instruction." (for Aug. 1825, p. 360, 1.) Hence it appears, that your system has not only been brought into operation by means of misrepresentation in defeating the designs of his Majesty—unsuitable to the present state of Canada, and brought with the most alarming dangers, but that your pretensions in respect to religious instruction, are a mere farce; and your concession, that Episcopalian youth in a Scotch University, receive ample religious instruction, is a complete refutation of every argument that can be produced to support the establishment of an Episcopalian University in Canada. Therefore the charter of Kings college, at York, ought to be altered or annulled.

We are brought to the same conclusion by another argument and example—an example to which you refer and on which you make your boast namely, the *Parochial schools of Scotland*. It cannot be uninteresting to the intelligent reader, for me to give a few hints relative to the origin and outline of these justly celebrated schools, and to apply the principles of the Parochial system to the subject under examination.

"By an Act of James VI. of Scotland, and I. of England, 10th December, 1616, he requests the Bishops to solicit the heritors to make provision for a school in every parish. This recommendation was ratified by a statute of his son, Charles I. 1633. By a second statute under his reign, in 1646, the heritors

in every parish were bound to provide the School Master with a yearly salary not below £5 10 1/2, and above £11 2 3, which, with the quarterly fees of such as could pay, and other emoluments, was, in those times, considered adequate to support a teacher, although these salaries have been increased, yet the augmentations have not kept comparative pace with the diminished value of money.—Should the heritors be inattentive to the interests of the parish schools, any five of what is styled the committee of supply, who consist of the principal landholders, have it in their power, by the direction of the Presbytery, within whose bounds the school is, to enact every necessary assessment. The *Ministers and Heritors unite* in the electing of the School Master; but he is to be finally examined by the Presbytery, and to be sustained or rejected as they see cause to determine. This statute passed in 1693, under William and Mary. Indeed the Parliament of Scotland enacted, in 1646, that a school should be established in every parish, for the education of the poor. [Edinburgh Christian Instructor, Vol. XV. p. 219.]

No one can read the above without noticing the singular contrast between the Scotch parochial system, and that which you are striving to introduce in Canada. Observe, sir, the parochial system was introduced and established by an act of the Scotch Parliament—yours is directly contrary to the opinion of our Parliament. The great body of the Scotch population were members of the Established Kirk, and therefore the principles of the Parochial schools were conformable to the sentiments and wishes of very near the whole community. It is quite otherwise in Canada, in respect to Church of Englandism and your University. Again in the parochial system, the school teachers were chosen by the united voice of the *Ministers and Heritors*; but, in your system, "the clergy is to acquire the sole direction of education."—Very moderate salaries are allowed the teachers, in the parochial system; but, in yours, they are comparatively exorbitant. Even already, in York, the Teacher of the Central School—virtually under your control—receives, not £11 2s, 3d. as the laborious and useful Scotch teacher, but from £000 to £250 Sterling per annum, for not very carefully

L L
2556 300