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III *A Review of the Founding and Development of the University of
Toronto as a Provincial Institution*

By REV. DR. N. BURWASH,

(Read May 25, 1905.)

Introductory Note.

This review does not attempt a complete history of the University of Toronto. It is intended to trace the successive steps by which the present relation of the university to the higher education of the province as maintained by the state has been reached. This involved at first a conflict of political and ecclesiastical forces, and finally a harmonious co-operation on terms of mutual independence. The Province of Manitoba has already founded its university upon the same basis, and the other western provinces are likely to follow in the same line. Several states of the American Union have also made inquiries as to the success of the system. It is therefore thought that such a review may be of present interest.

N. B.

Toronto, April 17th, 1905.

The Founding and Endowment of the University of Toronto.

The Province of Upper Canada was founded under the Constitutional Act of 1791. During the preceding seven or eight years, a United Empire Loyalist population had been settling on the banks of the St. Lawrence, on the shores of the Bay of Quinté, in the Niagara Peninsula and on the coast of Lake Erie. When the government of the province was organized its population numbered about sixty-five thousand.

The first governor of the new province was Col. John Graves Simcoe, who had been a conspicuous leader of the Loyalist volunteers during the revolutionary war. His early life and education were those of an English country gentleman of the eighteenth century, and his ideas and tastes corresponded with the age and with the environment of his youth. He looked forward to the development in the new province of the same social conditions as existed in the old land; and, accordingly, in taking thought for the well-being of the young colony proposed to himself that provision should be made out of public funds for the maintenance of religion and the promotion of higher education. This religion was to be Protestant, as that of the adjoining Province of Lower Canada was Roman Catholic; but instead of tithes collected from the people, its