

Colleges are affiliated to the University in Ireland; and the institution is to open on equal terms to members of all denominations, there being no special chair of theology, the teaching of which is to be left to the various affiliated colleges. Government, it is expected, will subsidize the University, and place it on a permanent basis.

The Scottish National Association for Combined Secular and Religious Instruction has issued a statement of its views. The basis adopted by the Association is as follows:—1. That no system of national education will be satisfactory which authorises the application of public money, either by Government grants or by local rates, toward the teaching the theological tenets of any religious sect. 2. That, therefore, the State and the School Boards should make provision only for the secular instruction which all children may receive in common; and that, in the interest of religious teaching itself, the care and responsibility of theological instruction should be left to parents and Church organisations, to be provided by separate arrangements.

The Finance Committee of the School Board for London has reported, through its Chairman, M. Freeman, that the amount of money which it would probably be necessary to borrow in order to provide new Board Schools for the children of London would be about one million sterling. Mr. Freeman reminds those who are especially watchful over the interests of the rate-payers, that they need not be alarmed at the amount, for the Committee had made calculations, and the result was that the burden of the establishment and support of these schools would not, after all, be very severe. The debt is to be paid off in instalments in fifty years, and the interest is only $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The *School Board Chronicle*, commenting on the Report remarks:—"Mr. Freeman might have adduced yet further reasons why this large outlay should not be regarded with unqualified seriousness. Undoubtedly an annual sum will have to be drawn from the pockets of the rate-payers sufficient to pay the interest and the instalments; but there are many items to place on the other side of the account. We are not now referring to the oft-repeated argument that money spent in educating the children of the poor will, in the long run, prove to be a good investment, by reason of the diminution of crime and pauperism, and the conversion of comparatively useless into useful members of society. We wish to look at the subject for a moment in relation to the manner in which it will affect the general prosperity of the community, not fifteen or twenty years hence, but now. In the first place, we may assume that, to employ capital to the amount of a million sterling will, in a more or less indirect way, benefit the community. The interest, drawn, no doubt, from the pockets of the rate-payers, will flow back by various channels, giving a certain impulse to trade and manufacture. Again, the million sterling will be spent in building materials, in labour, and in professional services. So much money put to work in this city will induce a great deal of activity, and enliven many industrial agencies which might otherwise move sluggishly. A guinea goes a long way before it dies, and it is not easy to estimate the movement among the busy portions of the community which may be caused by setting a million sovereigns usefully to work."—*English Educational Times*.

VI. Biographical Sketches.

1. THE VERY REVEREND DEAN BETHUNE.

Few men in our community have obtained more universal respect and regard than the late Dean. He was a firm and upright man, kind of heart and sound of head. As the rector of the parish of Montreal, he for many years conducted its affairs with great ability. In Christ's Church Cathedral, of which he was the head, his face had of late years been seldom seen; but it was sadly missed by many members of the congregation who, from their childhood up had been accustomed to see it at each recurring service; and to feel that the Dean was indeed, "that good old man, the clergyman." They felt the absence the more keenly, too, as they knew that it must soon become perpetual, for his long years and failing health gave no room for hope that he could ever become strong again. The last official act which he performed was to preside over the meeting of the Diocesan Synod, held in this city in June, 1869, for the election of a Bishop to the See left vacant by the death of the late Bishop Fulford, and which resulted in the election of Bishop Oxenden. The session was a very stormy one, as many will remember, yet we do not recollect that one of the chairman's rulings was even called into question, and his attitude was at all times dignified and impartial. From that time, the Dean had not appeared much in public. It was his

practice, so long as his health allowed, to officiate on communion Sundays. Latterly, however, his turns of duty had been very infrequent, and on one Sunday last month he paid his last visit to the Cathedral, where he partook of the holy communion. Afterwards he gradually declined, and passed quietly away yesterday morning at the ripe old age of eighty-two years. He was the son of a United Empire Loyalist, who settled in South Carolina in 1791, having emigrated to that place from the Isle of Skye in the year 1751. He espoused the loyal cause in the revolutionary war, and at its conclusion, came to Montreal, and became a minister of the Presbyterian Church. He was appointed to the mission of Glengarry, where his son, who afterwards became the Dean, was born in 1791. Mrs. Bethune being a member of the Anglican Church, brought her son up in its tenets. He was educated in the famous Cornwall Grammar School, of which he subsequently became principal, succeeding the late Bishop Strahan. In the war 1812, he did duty on the frontier as a volunteer. Later he was ordained to deacon's orders by Bishop Mountain, of Quebec, and served for some time as a missionary in the west. In 1818 he was appointed to the rectory of Christ Church, in this city, which he held up to the hour of his death. In 1835 a degree of D.D. was conferred upon him by Columbia College, New York. His last and highest office was that of Dean, which was bestowed upon him soon after the creation of the diocese.—*Montreal Gazette*.

2. MR. CHARLES MACLEAN.

Mr. Maclean was born at Edinburgh, in the year 1806, and was one of a very large family. His father, Donald Maclean, writer to the Signet of Edinburgh, was at one time Solicitor of the Exchequer for Scotland, and occupied a high position in the Scottish Capital. At the age of fifteen Mr. Maclean lost his sight completely. In consequence of this calamity the profession for which he was intended, viz., the army, had to be abandoned, and the whole course of his life was changed. Under his father's influence he was induced to study for the ministry of the Church of Scotland, and with this in view he spent eight sessions at the University of Edinburgh, taking a distinguished part in his classes notwithstanding his blindness. At the end of his college course, having passed the prescribed examination, an objection was raised to his admission to the church by reason of his want of sight, and the matter was debated very warmly in the General Assembly in the year 1829. Many distinguished men took part in the discussion, and it was finally determined to authorize the license on condition that Mr. Maclean would bind himself never to accept a charge. In the year 1834 he emigrated to Canada with no other companion than a hired man-servant. By the recommendation of Governor Sir John Colborne he went to Seymour where he bought land to make himself a home. Having made a "clearance"—some of the largest trees being felled by his own hand—and built a homestead, he returned in 1836 to Edinburgh, where he married Miss Campbell who accompanied him in the following year to his primitive home in the backwoods. His life was marked by many remarkable adventures which if collected would make a most interesting volume. In 1842, and again in 1845, his house with all its contents, was destroyed by fire, and on the latter occasion, all the outbuildings, fences, crops and even live stock were destroyed as well as the homestead. He crossed the Atlantic some fifteen times, and on almost all these occasions he was entirely alone and unattended. Twice he was ship-wrecked—once on the Banks of Newfoundland. In spite of the treatment which he received from the Church of Scotland, he remained throughout life her devoted adherent and took the deepest interest in all her schemes. In politics Mr. Maclean, true to the school in which he had been bred retained to the end of his days the sentiments and feelings of a British Tory. Like all true Scotchmen he cherished an undying love for his native land, her traditions and glories.—*Kingston Chronicle and News*.

3. COL. ALEXANDER FRASER.

Decased was born in the Scottish Highlands in the year 1794, and at fifteen enlisted in the British army as a private soldier. Among other battles he fought at Queenston Heights, Stoney Creek, and for distinguished conduct, especially at the latter, was raised to the rank of adjutant, though yet only nineteen. He settled in this neighbourhood fifty-six years ago, and for a long period was a prominent public man and active magistrate in this county; for some time past, however, old age and infirmness of body and mind caused his retirement into strict private life. He was in all respects a true gentleman of the old school.

4. MR. JOHN FRASER.

Mr. John Fraser, known all over the Dominion as "Cousin Sandy," whose melancholy and sudden death at Ottawa has been