

stitutions becoming centres of higher education in different parts of the Province, which is the proper justification for such expenditure, the object is to huddle them together in one city and affiliate them with one University, establishing a monopoly of the degree-granting power, the only escape from the improper administration of which is departure from the country.

If it be true that our educational resources are too widely distributed, then let us have real amalgamation. But let the strong institutions which are thus formed occupy different centres in the country, and not be crowded into one city, for the mere fact of railway connection by no means answers the demand for different educational centres. Above all let these representative institutions retain their degree-granting power; otherwise they will most assuredly cease to be educational, and become mere coaching mills to cram students for University examinations, the passing of which shall be the sole criterion of their attainments.

IN our last issue one signing himself "Graduate" takes objection to our "carping fault-finding" with regard to the educational administration of Ontario, yet wishes to know our whole mind with reference to the subject. He indicates also that we are opposed to having our educational system directed by persons responsible to the people. Gladly would we make "Graduate" aware of our full convictions on this subject, and especially our reasons for holding these convictions, providing always that his interest is an educational one and centres not in partyism, but the limited space of the JOURNAL will not admit of this. We expect, however, in another number to draw attention to some serious defects in our present educational system and which we believe are being continually aggravated. As to our objection to the directorate of the Educa-

tional Department being responsible to the people, we may simply say that it does not exist. A Council of Instruction or Superintendent of Education, selected by the Government from the best educational authorities in the Province, would be no less responsible to the people than the present Minister of Education. The latter does not hold his position in virtue of the people's direct choice, but in virtue of his party's choice. He is responsible, not to the country at large, but simply to his own constituency. He is necessarily chosen from party politicians, and such are not of necessity authorities on education. Then, too, any objection to his administration upon purely educational grounds, is immediately interpreted as an attack upon the political party which he represents, and his administration is defended upon party and not upon educational principles. A Council of Instruction, on the other hand, which is responsible to the Government is as directly as possible responsible to the people. Not being a party machine it would be open to the criticism of both parties, independently of party politics. Its existence would thus depend upon the proper administration of the important interests entrusted to its care and not upon any mere party issue. As to the fate of the previous Council, that has been sufficiently explained, but any further information may be obtained from Prof. Dupuis' paper already quoted.

ONCE again we ask our friends to show their friendship by promptly paying their subscriptions to the JOURNAL. At present many a manse, our good-natured treasurer tells us, receives the JOURNAL for 1887 while the "bill" for 1886 is still unpaid. Probably the same might be said of many a medical and law office, though we are told that the "ministerial brethren" are the worst offenders. Now, friends, you must rally to our support.