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In 1849 important modifications in the constitution of King's College were effected by an Act of the Legislature of Canada. In accordance with this Act the Faculty of Divinity was abolished, and the name of the University changed from King's College to that of the University of Toronto.

The University underwent a further transformation in 1853 through the abolition of its Faculties of Law and Medicine, and the division of its functions between the two newly organized corporations of the University of Toronto and University College. To the Senate of the University of Toronto were assigned the duties of framing the curriculum, holding examinations and admitting to degrees in Arts, Law, and Medicine, while to the President and Professors of University College, as a distinct and independent corporation with special powers, were assigned the teaching in Arts and the entire discipline and control of students.

The model of the thus re-organized University was stated to be the University of London. The characteristic features of that University, which had then only recently been established, were its limitation to the function of examination and its freedom from denominational restrictions. The University of Toronto, while retaining the latter characteristic unimpaired, has since been enabled to resume the function of teaching.

During the early years of the University it experienced repeated changes in its local habitation. As already noted, the faculty and students of King's College were at first temporarily accommodated in the Parliament Buildings until the erection of the east wing of King's College admitted of the occupation of their own building. From this they were