The faculty and students of King's College were temporarily accommodated in the Parliament House until the erection of the east wing of King's College admitted of the occupation of their own building. From this they were anew transferred to the old Parliament Buildings in 1853, when, by a special Act, the site of King's College was appropriated for the proposed new buildings for the use of the Parliament of Upper and Lower Canada. On the return of the Legislature to Toronto, in 1856, the faculty resumed the occupation of the old King's College building, while one formerly in use by the Medical Faculty was being adapted for their occupation. There accordingly the work of the College was carried on, while the new University buildings were planned. This building was begun in 1856, and on October 4th, 1858, the top stone of the main tower being then placed in position by Sir Edmund Head, the Governor-General, an old Oxford professor, the value of whose sympathy and support at this critical period in the history of the University cannot be over-estimated.

For more than thirty years the constitution of the University and of University College remained unchanged. Other collegiate bodies, principally denominational schools of Theology, entered into affiliation with the University; and in deference to their especial requirements, the course of study in Oriental Languages was augmented; but the Faculty of University College continued to do the work of instruction for nearly all the students in Arts who presented themselves for examination. The candidates for examinations and degrees in Medicine were trained by medical schools in affiliation with the University, and in the Faculty of Law the examinations were based merely upon text-books prescribed by the Senate.

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