

vantages at least equal with the University of Toronto. The Faculty of McMaster Hall pressed this view of the matter on the attention of the Faculty of Acadia College in an official communication last autumn.

But a great question remains. Does not "affiliation" put McMaster Hall, in some sense, under the control of the State? Not in the slightest degree. The State University cannot prescribe our curriculum, or order a text-book, or elect or reject, or nominate a teacher, or interfere with our discipline. It cannot even close a door, or light the gas or sweep the floor of McMaster Hall. Our autonomy over our Boards, Faculty, Course of Instruction and Discipline remains intact; while in view of the University's recognition of a portion of our work, it accords our President a seat on its Senate. The University of Toronto has faith in our ability to do the work which it accepts as options, and accepts it on certificates of examination conducted by our own college authorities. We can assure you that had "affiliation" involved the least degree of State control over our Theological College, we should have refused it as promptly as our brethren in the Maritime Provinces. So far were we from doing anything in this matter which we regarded as distasteful to our brethren of the Maritime Provinces, that our action to affiliate with the University of Toronto was taken in the presence of your representatives on our Board of Trustees, Rev. Dr. Sawyer, President of Acadia College, and Hon. J. McN. Parker of Halifax. If "affiliation" was inimical to your interests, or adapted to alienate your sympathies, these brethren were under sacred obligations to have warned us of the danger, and in our name to have protested against our action, but neither of them uttered a word of opposition or warning. We are not a little surprised at the sensitiveness manifested by your Convention under the circumstances in regard to "affiliation," especially as the Institutions under your control have been accustomed to accept State aid. It is evident that our brethren in your section do not, under the conditions, object to their institutions holding some relation to the State, for we notice in your Year Book for 1885, p. 57, the following resolution of the Board of Governors of Acadia College:—"Resolved, that this Board are prepared to work Horton Academy and Acadia Seminary under the Academy Act of 1885, and that the Executive Committee be directed to use all suitable means to have the institutions worked under said Act; but without prejudice to the trusts held therein by the Board of Governors." And we notice further that in carrying out the above resolution the legislature of Nova Scotia was memorialized on the subject during its session the past winter.

2. We gather that the second cause of complaint is the extension of our course for non-university men to four years. A careful explanation of the circumstances and motives under which this course was extended to four years will be our best vindication. After the anniversary in 1885, the Faculty held repeated and protracted ses-