

inational Universities and to the charter provision of a standard equal to that of the University of Toronto; to the indissoluble connection of other denominational enterprises with this one of leadership; to the fact that it was not a condition of rivalry but one of supplement and control for our religious purpose; to doubts about being able to carry out the spirit of the will of Mr. McMaster, or of the Charter, or about being true to our principles under federation. Dr. Holman thought independence would probably result in turning Arts students to Theology. Professor Wells proposed a dilemma on the receiving of State aid through federation: Either we would receive such aid or we would not. If we did not, then there was no advantage financially; if we did, then we violated our principles. The records of denominational institutions were cited to show that not all clear daylight nor all achievement were confined to State institutions, in which sometimes there was circumference without a centre.

The Guelph Convention was one of the largest ever held by the Baptists of these provinces. Its president was Dr. D. E. Thomson, whose praises as presiding officer were on the lips of all the delegates. At the opening of the Convention the President referred to the important matters at issue and to the confidence in the Baptist constituency which Senator McMaster had displayed. "We shall search in vain," he said, "the annals of the past for any former case in which the control of an institution of learning has been so unreservedly confided to popular power." Mr. McMaster evidently expected no outside authority or no clique within the denomination to shape the policy of our educational institutions. As to the relation of the trust to our principles Dr. Thomson said, "By accepting the trust we have made it part of our mission as a people. So if our distinctive views are not to shape its destiny it must be because these views are all wrong, or because we, by the universal acceptance of them, have, as the French say, exhausted our mandate. In either case we advertise to the world that we have no longer warrant for our separate existence." And that statement holds as true to-day as it did in 1888.

Dr. Trotter moved the substantive motion, "That this Convention affirms its judgment that McMaster University should be organized and developed as a permanently independent school of learning with the Lordship of Christ as the controlling principle." Two amendments were proposed: one, to postpone the discussion of federation; the other, to eliminate the word "permanently." Both amendments were lost and the motion carried by a large majority. The location was settled in favor of Toronto. The address of Dr. Trotter on the Lordship of Christ was considered one of the decisive addresses.