

School of Technology, the strengthening of the departments it might start with, and the addition of new departments which the growth of the country might render necessary, would be matters of very great difficulty, if the Province at the same time had to keep six Arts Colleges up to the times. The progress of our people in appreciation of sound and thorough education may be hoped to be such as to render it necessary in a short time for all our Arts Colleges to make great additions to their equipment. To equip one college in such a manner as to place our educational facilities on a level with those of Ontario, Quebec, and the United States, would necessitate a large expenditure. When the Province has done that six times over, little available capital will be left to develop our Technical School. If, however, we should undertake the possible task of maintaining only one college, we could well afford at the same time to make to the strength of our technical schools such additions as the growth of the Province would render advisable.

We have seen that consolidation of our colleges would render possible the immediate establishment of a complete school of technology, if King's, Acadia, and Mount Allison between them could hand over to the united college an endowment to the extent of \$4,000 a year. It may be, as some say, that in the event of consolidation they would require all their funds for founding theological colleges and building Halls of Residence in the University town. If that be so, it would at least be possible for the Legislature to found at once, by utilising the endowments of Dalhousie College, schools of agriculture and mining; and consolidation, which in that case would refer to endowments which are to be raised rather than to those which exist, would by concentrating the interest of the whole community on the united college, very soon enable us to add the schools which at present we would have to omit.

The moral is plain. We ought certainly to consolidate our Universities, unless it can be shewn that consolidation would bring with it evils so great as to outweigh the benefits which I have indicated. But that cannot be shewn. On the contrary it has been clearly demonstrated that the efficiency of our higher education in all its departments, whether literary, philosophical, scientific, or theological, would be greatly increased by consolidation, and that the religious training which some of our colleges endeavour to secure, by providing their students with Halls of Residence, subjecting them to collegiate discipline, and bringing them into daily contact with men of acknowledged piety, could be secured as truly and in as large measure in connection with a large university as in connection with a small one. In view of these conclusions, which, I think, may be considered firmly established, the opponents of consolidation take upon themselves a serious responsibility. They follow a course which the world's experience shows is likely to be disastrous for the Province, for the sake of maintaining a number of colleges for