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SUMMARY.—**Education:** The Colleges of Canada: the University of Toronto, by the Hon. P. J. O. Chauveau (to be continued).—The progress of Education in Lower Canada, an Essay read before the Teachers' Association in connexion with the McGill Normal School, by Mr. Arnold.—School Days of Eminent Men in Great Britain, by J. F. Timbs (continued).—Suggestive Hints towards improved secular instruction, by the Rev. H. Dawes, 7th Mensuration (continued), 3th Geometry.—**OFFICIAL NOTICES.**—Appointments: Education office.—Normal schools.—Boards of Examiners.—School Commissioners.—Erection of School Municipalities. Diplomas granted by Boards of Examiners.—**EDITORIAL:** School of Agriculture at Ste. Anne Lapocatière.—The English and French languages in Canada.—Eighth conference of the Teachers' Association in connexion with the Laval Normal School.—Extracts from the Reports of the School Inspectors for 1859.—**MONTHLY SUMMARY:** Educational intelligence.—Literary intelligence.—Miscellaneous intelligence.—Wood Cuts: Perspective view of the South and East facades of the University of Toronto.

EDUCATION.

THE COLLEGES OF CANADA (1).

III.

The University of Toronto.

As a general rule Canada so remarkable for her scenery and natural beauties, unsurpassed by those of any other land, is far from being equally conspicuous for her monuments. Our fellow-citizens seem to have trusted to nature for the ornament of our country and to have disdained whatever assistance architecture might have rendered. Indeed some of our most beautiful landscapes are disfigured by the presence of ungraceful and unhandsome buildings.

We have, it is true, several imposing and lofty structures highly creditable to the enterprising spirit of a young and not very populous country; but even as to some of those it seems that an evil genius, or one of those mischievous fairies who, uninvited, used to preside now and then at the birth of princes, has marred either the conception or the execution of their plans.

Here you will see an elegant edifice with a tower, a steeple, or a cupola, altogether out of proportion with its dimensions. There, a building the plan of which the architect

has suddenly changed as if wanting to apply purposely the *desinat in piscem* of the Latin poet. Sometimes you will find that, while a great deal of money has been spent in ornamental details, through some misplaced economy, an essential part of the structure has been omitted or left unfinished. If a building is handsome in itself you may almost be sure that its style is not in harmony with the site, or with the destination. A bank will look like a theatre, a church like a public hall, a market place like a palace, a college like a jail, or a cotton factory; and, finally, if at any time a really elegant and well conceived plan is fully carried out, the building will most invariably be erected in some corner or *cul-de-sac*, where it has not the slightest chance of being seen.

This being the case, the city of Toronto must feel exceedingly grateful to the government and to the senate of the University for the erection of buildings, which are not only the largest, but the finest in every respect Canada possesses, and would do credit to any part of the world.

It has been doubted whether the extensive accommodations of that institution were not in advance of the times and whether a more judicious use of the large sums in that manner appropriated could not have been devised. But any one who shall reflect on the present position of our country and the extended field which it is opening to the intelligence of our youth, will admit that all that is being done for educational purposes ought to be calculated more in view of our future expansion, than of our present condition. It should be indeed a subject of deep regret at some future time were our great educational institutions provided with insufficient and scanty means of imparting that higher degree of instruction, which at all times and with all nations, has been the main spring and the great test of civilisation. His Excellency, the Governor General, at the ceremony of placing the coping stone on the turret of the building has, in that respect, laid down principles which we confess we should like to see applied to

(1) For an account of the Laval University see the first volume of our Journal, numbers 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, and for a history of the McGill University see second volume, numbers 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7.