

March, 1851.

Lordship's Des-
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GREY.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, Toronto, 1st May, 1851.

MY LORD,

From the tenor of your Lordship's Despatch to me, No. 564, of the 11th March, I am apprehensive that some misconception may exist in your mind respecting the proceedings which have taken place with a view to the Incorporation of Denominational Colleges with the University of Toronto, under the Provincial Act 12 Vic. cap. 82; and I think it my duty to endeavor to remove it, before communicating to the Lord Bishop of Toronto your decision on his application for a Royal Charter for the College which he proposes to establish.

2. Your Lordship observes, that although it is not distinctly so stated in my Despatch, it has been explained to you that the policy of confining the power of granting Degrees in Arts to the University of Toronto has been obstructed by the existence of Denominational Colleges, having the power, under old Charters, of giving Degrees in Arts, but that the Provincial Government has been negotiating with these bodies for the surrender of their privileges, which has been obtained, except in two cases referred to in the correspondence. This view of the case is not, however, entirely accurate. Queen's College, Presbyterian; and Victoria College, Wesleyan; are the only Denominational Colleges on which the privilege in question has been conferred, and it has not yet been surrendered by either.

3. I have further to observe, that it is not strictly correct to state that Colleges incorporated with the University of Toronto will be placed under the arrangement now in contemplation in relation to that Institution precisely similar to that in which King's College and University College stand to the University of London. Looking to the very limited resources which are enjoyed by the Denominational Colleges hitherto established in Upper Canada,—(for both Queen's and Victoria Colleges, it is to be remarked, are dependent in a great measure, on annual grants of the Legislature, the continuance of which cannot be guaranteed,)—it has not been deemed advisable to propose that Students attached to such Incorporated Colleges should be relieved from the necessity of keeping terms at the University, and of attending University Lectures, in order to qualify them for University Degrees. It has been presumed that the resources of these Colleges will be most advantageously employed if they are exclusively devoted to the object of providing Religious Instruction for the youth of the Communions to which they may respectively belong. The clauses, however, of the Act establishing the University of Toronto, which relate to the Incorporation of Colleges, and of which I herewith enclose the copy, contain nothing imperative on this point. I apprehend, therefore, that if the persons interested in any Denominational College should