

sities of public opinion, with singular unanimity, assume the defensive when it is hinted that the usefulness of Upper Canada College is gone. This indeed is characteristic of those journals when an attack is made upon any local institution by the "country"—a fact which might lead one to impune the breadth of their view or the sincerity of their advocacy. Among other reasons given for continuance is that in the past it has done yeoman service in the cause of secondary education. This is doubtless true and may call up a sentiment of regret at its removal, but should not blind our eyes to the fact that it has survived the necessity that gave it birth. Because it sees in this institution the shadow of departed usefulness, should Government therefore, stay its hand? Upper Canada College was brought into being to supply a specific need of a by-gone period. But now that Collegiate Institutes and High Schools in every city, town and village in Ontario possess facilities for imparting the education which Upper Canada College was designed to supply, its *raison d'être* has, we think, ceased.

Another argument which has been offered in defence of this school is that its grant or endowment rather, if divided up among the Collegiate Institutes and High Schools, would give to each of them an inconsiderable amount, and therefore it is scarcely worth their while to raise a breeze about it. This of course is intended to pacify those connected with the latter institutions—the principal centres of disaffection and where this agitation had its origin. This argument needs only to be mentioned to be refuted—as we presume it is a proposition which will receive universal assent that the expenditure of any sum of money, however small, upon improper objects is indefensible and should be discontinued. We think that in the case of Upper Canada College the hand writing is on the wall—its days are numbered—and

the sooner it becomes a memory the better.

THE CHANCELLOR'S PRIZES.

MR. Sandford Fleming, has announced his intention of giving the following prizes during his incumbency of the Chancellor's chair :

I. A gold Medal for each year during the Chancellor's incumbency. The subject will be announced in the Calendar.

II. Three prizes of \$50 each to be awarded for the best English essays on the under-mentioned subjects. The essays to be sent into the University Registrar on or before University Day, 1881. If the essays be not of sufficient merit, the prizes will be open for another competition :

1. Specially intended for Arts students, but open to all, "should the study of Classics be optional or compulsory."

2. Specially for Divinity students, but open to all, "should the Presbyterian Church in Canada return to the liturgy of the term of Knox, or adopt in public worship a liturgy in any form."

3. Specially for Medical students, but open to all, "How best to develop Brain Power in youth so as to preserve it in health and vigor for useful application in manhood and old age."

The bulletin board announces that the gold medal will be given this session to the member of the graduating class who make the highest average number of marks in any three classes, Pass or Honor, at the ensuing examination, thus making a general proficiency medal.

CONTRIBUTED.

. We wish it to be distinctly understood that the JOURNAL does not commit itself in any way to the sentiments which may be expressed in this department.

THE NEW CALENDAR AND THE LANGUAGES.

WHEN the students who delight in the study of languages read the new calendar, and found that senior mathematics and natural philosophy were no longer compulsory studies, we fancy they must have jumped for joy. But alas, for the scientific and mathematical men, (*who have tastes too*.) they found the same dreary array of language classes minus one. And then perhaps, some of them re-