

ents without a word. After a few days delay, insisted upon by us at the close of the Conference, in order that we might have time to explain to the Trustees and Council of Queen's that we were in no way committed, the Scheme was given to the public. As soon as it was presented to our constituency it was unanimously rejected. The more it was canvassed, the worse it looked. Some of our professors who favored Confederation in the abstract utterly rejected this particular concrete. Men who had never agreed on anything before agreed in condemning this new model of a university. Everything that has occurred in the two years that have passed since has convinced us that, in the interests of the country, in the interests of university education, and in the interests of Queen's, we took the right position.

Last September the Methodist Conference decided that the Scheme would do for Victoria, and the Government promised the necessary legislation. Doubtless before this is printed the proposed legislation will have been submitted to the house and be before the country. We have a right to hope that sufficient time will be given for consideration before it is voted on.

I have been asked to state what attitude Queen's takes now. Though no meeting of the University Council or the Board of Trustees has been held since last September, I shall endeavour to comply with the request to the best of my ability.

Associations of graduates and of benefactors in different places have met, and resolved that, should the Legislature re-open the University Question, a one-sided solution can not be accepted. The city council of Kingston has passed resolutions asking the Legislature to confine its efforts to the definite field of Practical and Applied Science, and to establish a School of Science in Kingston, as an integral part of its University policy. It also officially invited the surrounding municipalities to pass resolutions to the same effect. The councils, both town and county, complied very generally with the invitation, and I accompanied a delegation from them, and from associations of the benefactors of Queen's that waited upon the Government, for the purpose of explaining that I for one thought the request of the municipalities for a School of Science in Kingston most reasonable, in the event of the Government proposing to do anything, and that it seemed to me that their suggestion could be accepted by Queen's as a fair compromise of its claims. Thus while nothing has as yet been done officially by Queen's since it announced its decision on the Confederation Scheme to the Government in May, 1885, I understand pretty well the mind of those who may be considered the constituency of the University.

So far, then, as I have been able to gather their mind, they would prefer that the Legislature should not vote any more money for University education. They believe, with the Municipalities Committee, that "private endowment is apt to secure the best service at the least cost; that it is permanent, and not liable, like State aid, to

change as the views of Governments or Legislatures may change, and that it calls forth the noblest attributes of human character." They have none but the friendliest feelings for Toronto University, though convinced that its exceptional position has cultivated in some of its weaker graduates an arrogance of tone towards other institutions that is not usual in gentlemen and scholars. They are sure that Toronto University is fettered, stunted, kept back from anything like free and full development, by its connection with what must, under present conditions, be a Party Government. Besides, from what is reflected of the will of the average voter on the subject, they believe that the Legislature will do much less for University College and the proposed new University Professoriate than their friends declare to be necessary. If the Legislature would vote a million or two, they might be able to do what they consider necessary at present. If it voted nothing, they could appeal to their numerous graduates and the wealthy men who appreciate at its worth University education. But, if it votes only a trifle, then all that is likely to be accomplished will be the checking of voluntary contributions. The growth of Toronto University will to a certainty be arrested. Believing all this, they are inclined to wonder that the graduates of Toronto do not ask the Legislature to set it free from its present political bondage, with the provision that the Minister of Education and other official members should be kept on its Board of Management as an acknowledgement of the rights of the Province in the institution. They do not, indeed, wonder very much, because history shows that those who enjoy privilege are slow to surrender it, even when it hurts rather than helps, and they also remember how unwillingly Queen's surrendered the Provincial grant it once had, although no greater blessing ever befell it than the taking away of the said dole. They are all now conscious that it was a blessing in disguise, though they still resent the offensive manner in which the thing was done, the short notice given, and the injustice shown to men whose salaries were dependent on the annual grant.

This then is the view taken by Queen's men generally of State Aid to Higher Education. But, should the Government insist upon re-opening the question, then they are quite clear that anything short of a comprehensive measure would be wantonly unjust. The public meeting held in Kingston, in January, 1885, as soon as "the Confederation Scheme" was published, adopted this view, but at the same time insisted that if the Government adopted anything like the scheme before them, it should be made comprehensive, and include Queen's in its operation. By the establishment of the proposed School of Science, Queen's would be included, in the way most calculated to serve, with due regard to economy, the material interests of the Province, and absolutely in accordance with the principle that Government control must be co-extensive with Governmental expenditure. But, since this proposal was made, oddly enough, two