

His Excellency directs me to request you to report thereon, and at the same time to state your opinion as to the practicability of reducing the expenses of your office, without impairing its efficiency.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed),

C. ALLEYN,

Secretary.

D. BUCHAN, Esq.,

Bursar, University, &c., Toronto, C.W.

(Copy.)

OFFICE OF THE BURSAR OF THE UNIVERSITY, &c.,
Toronto, 9th November, 1860.

The Hon. C. ALLEYN,

Secretary.

SIR,—I had the honor to receive in due course of post your letter of the 25th ultimo, transmitting copy of a memorial of the Senate of the University of Toronto, respecting the expenses of this office, and directing me to report thereon, and at the same time to state my opinion as to the practicability of reducing the expenses of the office, without impairing its efficiency.

The duty thus laid upon me is, in some respects, not a very agreeable one, because it involves the interest and feelings of others. I should have been glad had it been possible for me to avoid it, but as a public officer at the head of a department, I know that it is a necessary consequence of my position, and therefore I do not ask to have the responsibility placed on any other shoulders than my own. I have therefore to report as follows:

Having made the calculations necessary to test the allegations of the memorial, that the items forming a first charge on the income bear a proportion of eighteen per cent. on the gross income of the University, it appears to me that the proportion is somewhat over stated. I presume the calculation furnished to the Senate has been made upon the *gross totals* on each side of my public accounts. Had cross entries been taken into connection, as, for example, repayments of law costs, or taxes, and fees received for instruments and transfers, I think the percentage would have been found to be between sixteen and seventeen instead of eighteen per cent. The difference is not very great, but still it amounts to something.

I think, too, that although there has certainly been an unexpected reduction of income to the extent of \$2,500 or \$3,600, owing to the failure of purchasers to perform their covenants, the memorialists might have admitted that such was not the only or even the principal cause of their financial difficulties. In fact it was scarcely worth naming in the face of the immensely greater reduction arising from the expenditure on the new building and the Library, amounting to nearly ten times the other sum. The loss of interest on sales would soon have been remedied; nearly a half has been supplied already by the sales made since the beginning of the present year. Nevertheless, as the financial difficulties do exist, and as the Senate is looking round for opportunity to economise, I admit not only the propriety but the necessity of looking into my department.

It ought not, however, to be overlooked in making this inquiry, that although the gross income of the University has now been reduced to about £12,000 per annum, yet it had been increased during my administration from £8,000 to about £16,000, and that but for the expenditure on the Building it would now have been nearly £18,000 even with the loss on the forfeited sales; in which case the University share of expenditure for joint management, together with the other items named in the memorial, would not have exceeded twelve per cent. on its gross income.

Having thus noticed the averment as to the proportion which the first charge bears to the Income, I presume it will be proper to give some account of the position of the office when the direct control of its affairs was taken out of the hands of the governing