

even though the Provincial University were again placed on a sound financial basis, it would not within a twelvemonth be once more undermined by the mole-like industry, and mole-like intelligence of its persistent enemy? Clearly none!" No wonder that under these circumstances a sense of insecurity has seized upon the public mind. No wonder that while the University administration sways and oscillates visibly under the sapping influence of the Upper Canada College, the press are anxiously examining the foundations of our whole University system. Hitherto the Provincial University has been held in a most degrading condition of servility. Its lands have been sold for a small fraction of their marketable value to provide U. C. College with funds for insane profusion. U. C. College has apparently at will appointed its own Masters University examiners—because, say its friends, men of like accomplishments could not elsewhere in the whole Province be obtained, unhappily forgetting that some of the very individuals who were thus appointed as examiners for their alleged pre-eminent ability, were afterwards dismissed from U. C. College Masterships for incapacity. But this is not all. As if it were not enough to place at this institution's disposal the funds of the people's University, as if it were not enough to place in its mercenary keeping the University's honour, the Senate of the University have, in effect, placed their every act under the surveillance of this trumpety school—meeting, AS THEY STILL DO, by the gracious permission of the Principal, within the walls of Upper Canada College! Possibly this arrangement has been observed in order that the Principal may not be placed at the inconvenience of changing his slippers in order to attend the Senate's meetings.

To a similar position presented by itself Upper Canada College has attempted to degrade the Grammar Schools, using their endowment as the chief agency for this degradation. The Education Committee had thus referred to them a great question affecting in one direction the integrity and honour of the Provincial University, and extending in the other direction so far as to include the original endowment of the Grammar Schools. Now with this subject of investigation confronting the Committee, what has been the course of procedure? In the first place we have the chairman so completely abandoning his character of neutrality as to prejudge unfavourably questions which have lately moved every section of this Province—assuming forsooth to play the umpire, as though the people would recognize his jurisdiction or would value at a rush a decision which had obtained the rather awkward advantage of anticipating the evidence! And then we have certain other members of Committee talking volubly and flippantly regarding a question of whose real merits we must in charity suppose them ignorant. We sincerely trust that the very earliest opportunity will be afforded Messrs. Rykert and Cumberland of producing those "sessional papers" in vague references to which they have hitherto expended so much of that valuable time which they hold in trust for their constituents. Meanwhile we expect Mr. Christie and the other true friends of the Grammar Schools, to press vigorously the

enquiry. They may be assured that the people of this Province are not unobservant spectators of the contest between what is plainly right and what is as plainly wrong.—*Hamilton Spectator*.

DENOMINATIONAL AND SECULAR COLLEGES.—The opponents of the Denominational Colleges are delighted with the zeal manifested by the religious communities in supporting their respective educational institutions. Victoria College is to be endowed by the spontaneous offerings of the Methodist body; Queen's will be amply supported by the liberality of the Presbyterians; no doubt the other colleges heretofore receiving an annual pittance from the public Treasury will find the generosity of their supporters full compensation for the loss of the Government dole.

This is a pleasant prospect truly. The colleges need not despair. The denominationalists are neither cast down nor dispirited. The liberality of the people will atone for the niggardliness of the Government, and—of course—everybody will be pleased. Oh, yes! especially the advocates of "non-sectarian" collegiate education. They see in the efforts made to endow the colleges by voluntary contributions, a certain sign of the complete success of their principles. Are they sure of this success? The *Leader* very generously says:

"Now that the denominations are thrown upon their own resources, they are manifesting the proper spirit. Let them support their own colleges out of their own moneys, and they will be deserving of all encouragement."

Yes! "Let them support their own colleges out of their own moneys." If that is sound doctrine for the denominationalists, is it not equally sound for their opponents? What is sauce for the goose ought to be sauce for the gander. Assuredly if the denominations provide their own superior education at their own sole cost, it is most unfair that public money in which they have an equal interest with their opponents, should be applied exclusively for the benefit of the latter. It is no answer to say that the non-sectarian college is open to the members of all denominations, because so are the sectarian colleges. Those who would divorce religious from secular education, have no more right to claim aid from the State than those who believe in combining the two. The mere fact of entertaining a certain opinion ought to give no money privileges in this country; yet that is precisely what the advocates of the Toronto institution pretend to claim.

We are only yet reaching "the beginning of the end" of this question. Should the colleges heretofore receiving Government aid be able to stand alone by the liberality of their supporters, is it reasonable to suppose that the non-sectarian party will be allowed a monopoly of Provincial support? Is it not far more likely that an agitation will begin for the abolition of all State aid to superior education, and for the application of the funds hitherto set apart for that purpose to the support of the Common Schools of the country? This is the direction in which the public sentiment is being educated by the policy of the Ontario Legislature.—*Ottawa Times*.