

Scientific course of instruction. Our youths, by scores and hundreds, are determined as far as possible, to secure the blessings, and win the honours of literary culture. Every encouragement should be afforded them, in the pursuit of an object alike desirable for themselves, and beneficial to their country. But we deem it to be a matter of unspeakable importance to our young men—that they should obtain their Education in connection with influences which will be *most favourable* to their moral, as well as their intellectual culture,—otherwise their learning may be to them a curse instead of a blessing; may make them conceited, selfish, cunning and unprincipled villains, instead of generous, honourable citizens, and useful and happy Christians. Influenced by these views, the Wesleyan Methodist Church originated Victoria College, which, although a denominational, is not a *Sectarian College*; inasmuch, as no theological test is required from its *Professors* or its *Pupils*—no denominational tenets are inculcated in its devotional exercises, and every student is *required* to attend the religious services of the Church of his Parents or Guardians.

The erection and support of this College has cost the Wesleyan Church nearly eighty thousand dollars. In its halls nearly five thousand youths have been educated; many of them are creditably occupying positions of great responsibility and influence in this noble and rising colony. Victoria College is now in circumstances of considerable embarrassment.—Thus far, it has been chiefly supported by the voluntary efforts of its own denomination. It was never expected that it would be entirely dependent upon, or could be sustained by such limited and precarious support, but that it would receive a fair share of such public funds as were to be appropriated by the Government for the encouragement of Educational Institutions. We do not intend to relax our voluntary efforts, but we believe that those efforts ought to be encouraged and supplimented by an appropriation from the University Fund. To such an appropriation we believe we have a legal and a just claim. We found that claim on the plain letter and the obvious designs of the amended Laws of the University of Toronto, passed in the year 1853.

The following is the Act to which we refer. It is called an Act to amend the Laws relating to the University of Toronto, by separating its functions as a University from those assigned to it as a College, and by making better provision for the management of the property thereof, and that of Upper Canada College.

Whereas the enactments hereinafter repealed, have failed to effect the end proposed by the Legislature in passing them, inasmuch as no College or Educational Institution hath under them become affiliated to the University to which they relate, and many parents and others are deterred by the expense and other causes, from sending the youth under their charge to be educated in a large city, distant in many cases from their homes; and whereas from these and other causes, many do and will prosecute and complete their studies in various parts of this Province, to whom it is *just and right* to afford facilities for obtaining those scholastic honours and rewards which their diligence and proficiency may deserve, and thereby to encourage them and others to persevere in the pursuit of knowledge and sound learning; and whereas experience hath proved the principles embodied in Her Majesty's Royal Charter to the University of London in England, to be well adopted for the attainment of the objects aforesaid, and for removing the difficulties and objections hereinbefore referred to:—Be it therefore enacted, &c., &c., viz. Statutes 1852 and 1853, page 2.

In the amended laws here referred to, laws sanctioned by the Legislature of the Country, settled in accordance with the voice of a majority of the people, to whom the University properly belongs and for whose general benefit it ought to be expended, we are taught: That the former University with the College and Royal Grammar School, which were instituted by His Majesty George the Fourth, *failed to accomplish the purposes contemplated by their Establishment.* The sense in which they failed to accomplish those purposes, is clearly stated. 1. No College or Educational Institution became affiliated to the said University. 2. Many parents and guardians were deterred by the Expense and other causes, from sending the youth under their charge to a large City, distant in many cases from their Homes.