

I have thus given a brief view of the several departments of a Liberal Education, and of the leading principles of instruction which have been adopted as the basis of this Institution.

The liberality and unanimity with which the Government and Legislature have incorporated and assisted this institution as a College, marks a new epoch in the history of Canada; and I hail its establishment as forming a new era in the history of our Church, and of many youth of our country. We seem to behold the commencement of a new and brighter dispensation in the education, prosperity, and happiness of the Province at large. The direction of the public mind into useful channels of thought and activity; the establishment of a comprehensive system of primary schools; the successful operations of Upper Canada College, and the preparations for a Provincial University on the one side, and the energetic commencement of Queen's College on the other; the auspicious circumstances under which Victoria College has been opened, and the numbers of youth who are preparing to resort thither, spread out before us a prospect cheering to every lover of his country. Not as enemies, or even rivals to kindred institutions, but as humble co-workers with them, we commence the important and arduous task of rearing up a well-instructed population and ministry. May the Divine blessing crown our well-meant exertions with success! And may there go forth from these walls hundreds of youth who shall be ornaments of the pulpit, the senate, and the bar—who shall advance the literature, science, and arts of their country, and largely contribute to its elevation, prosperity, and happiness!