

sity were not lowered by becoming members of an older and stronger University, how can those of Victoria be lowered by becoming members of a University that will be second to none on this continent? I do not despise sentiment. It is a great power. I honor the loyal affection of Victoria men for that institution. I would be sorry if they had not such a feeling. But if kindly sentiments towards past methods and associations were to outweigh facts and arguments, there could be no reform or progress in anything. The most salutary reforms wrench some old ties. Many of Victoria's most distinguished graduates have already expressed their approval of Federation. Those who favor it are not less loyal to Victoria, or to Methodism, than those who oppose it. If men like President Nelles, Dr. Burwash and others, who have long and faithfully fought the battles of Victoria, and carried her interests on their heart and brain, are convinced that Federation is best, we may feel sure they have been led to that conclusion by weighty and unanswerable reasons. The graduates of Toronto University, at several meetings, have concurred in the scheme. And the graduates of Victoria will honor their liberal education by showing that they can rise above personal sentiment, however natural, and consider this measure with an unprejudiced and patriotic spirit, in its relation to the future educational interests of our country.

*Objection.*—The Methodists in the United States have denominational Universities; therefore, we should have a similar system.

*Answer.*—The religious conditions and educational systems of this country and the States differ too widely to make the course taken in one country a model for the other. The United States has no national system of High Schools; and the Methodist Church there maintains a large number of academies which feed her Colleges. We have a system of High Schools that are largely feeders to the Provincial University; and Victoria cannot secure a fair share of students from this source of supply, apart from the University system of the Province. It must also be admitted, that the number of first-class Universities in the States is very small; and that a large number of feeble Colleges, exercising University powers, making degrees much more plentiful than eminent scholars, is not our Canadian ideal of a desirable University system. To imitate the M. E. Church is, therefore, neither practicable nor expedient.

*Objection.*—The College Board has not power to deal with this question; it must, therefore, be postponed till the next General Conference.

*Answer.*—This objection can only be urged by those who are