

His chief concern for many years, apart from the material resources of the College, and the latest care and burden of his life was the relation of the College to the system of University education, as determined by the Provincial Legislature. There were two ideals, either of which would have been welcome to him in realization. The one was, that of his own beloved University developed in wealth and strength and beauty, till, free from all ordinary vicissitudes of fortune, she could extend to the youth of our country advantages unexcelled and unequalled for the pursuit of all liberal and scientific culture—a great and free, but distinctively Christian University, untrammelled, on the one side, by the interferences of State control and politicians who would be all things to all men; or, on the other side, by the restrictions of a narrow sectarianism that would find an end of all perfection in the traditions of the fathers and what had been said by them of old time. This was the one ideal. The other was that of a group of co-ordinate University Colleges, in which all the Universities of the Province would be confederated under one great Provincial University on absolutely equal terms, each one maintaining its individuality, its traditions and methods, and entitled to gain and hold no advantage save by its own worth and works. This second ideal he at one time hoped to see realized in the recent scheme of University Federation. It was his destiny, however, to see that scheme take such a shape in its final form that our sister Universities would not accept it, and so the bright vision was clouded over, and he passed away suddenly before the realization of his hope or of his fear.

Besides his peculiar interest in educational matters, Dr. Nelles was actively engaged in all the great movements of the Church, and especially in the work of missions and in that of the union of the various branches of the Methodist Church.

As a preacher, he was highly esteemed, and that, too, for qualities that do not always mark the popular preacher. It was not so much the way in which he said things, that charmed his hearers, though his diction was singularly pure, simple and forceful, but it was the things he said. The doubt or obscurity that had long troubled and darkened the spirit was suddenly and naturally dissolved, or some intervening error was removed, and a light let in upon the mind to its joy and peace. The mind of the hearer was not only helped and carried forward, but what was infinitely better, the mind was quickened and prompted to move forward and know the triumph of the