

It is impossible that any arrangement, which does not possess these characteristics, can be regarded as satisfactory.

Nothing can be really expedient, or produce permanent content, whereby the great principles of justice are contravened—neither can any public establishment possess or retain that hold on the favour of the community essential to its continued prosperity, which is not so constituted as to warrant its efficient operation, and to ensure the attainment of its peculiar objects—nor yet, even if the demands of justice should be satisfied, and efficiency secured—can any measure be considered complete, which admits subsequent modifications, whereby these equitable arrangements may be disturbed, and the practical working interrupted or stopped.

It is proposed in the following pages to consider the University question under these heads, and inquire whether any settlement can be devised, which will at once satisfy the just claims of the parties interested,—secure to the community the advantages which ought to be expected, and ensure to posterity the enjoyment of the benefit.

But previously to entering on this, it is proper to consider whether the present state of affairs in the University is such as to require or justify change. It might reasonably be supposed, that as the charter has already been the subject of discussion in the legislature, and the bill in which the modifications, which appeared to them desirable, were embodied, received the royal assent, and is now the authority under which the institution is conducted, nothing further remained to be done. And yet speeches, editorials, pamphlets, and petitions, might be adduced as evidence of the existence of a feeling of dissatisfaction, either with the principle, or with the working of the charter as thus modified. Before considering the validity or invalidity of the alleged causes of this dissatisfaction, it seems expedient to trace the progress of the feeling during the last two years.

In February, 1843, a deputation from the trustees of Queen's College, Kingston, visited Toronto, for the purpose

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