

during each of those five years would have been sufficient to support a staff of six or seven professors at excellent salaries, each teaching a special department of science or literature and collectively competent to impart all the instruction in their several subjects for which there is in this Province any requirement or demand. Divided among the half dozen institutions that claimed the support of the people, the influence of the grant, large as it was, in the improvement of the quality of instruction imparted was hardly appreciable.

The withdrawal of the grant, as resolved upon by the Legislature last winter, in accordance with the terms of the Statute of 1876, coupled with the practical abolition of the University of Halifax, naturally directed the attention of all persons interested in the subject of higher education to the necessity of doing something to place the matter upon a more satisfactory basis; and, accordingly, a requisition was addressed to the officers of the several Alumni Associations asking for a conference for the purpose of discussing the advisability and feasibility of University Consolidation. This requisition was signed by nearly one hundred Alumni, representing most, if not all, of our provincial colleges, and the expressions of opinion that it evoked were such as to encourage the belief that the