

out in detail for their especial benefit, but it is still continually tended, thought on, and made the subject of anxious discussion, by men otherwise much occupied by public and private affairs. Of what intense thought—of what earnest meditation and prayer—of what glowing enthusiasm—yea, of what warmth of contention, has not this Institution been the subject, and all to secure the interests of the youth of New Brunswick. Surely they at least ought to be grateful for so much anxious care for their welfare—they ought to be grateful that such benefits as above hinted at have been at length placed within their reach, and that they are freely invited to partake of them at such an easy rate. They ought to be grateful even for the restraints under which the Academical discipline places them, knowing that obedience in such matters, fosters and encourages a habit of dutiful obedience to *all* constituted authorities, “whether they be present or absent, whether they be secular or spiritual, whether they be in earth or in heaven.”

Third : The public ought to be grateful ; they are the parents or friends of those who come here for instruction, or if not, they may soon be interested in their public or private career. The friends and supporters of this College, it is true, have experienced much abuse from time to time, and from various quarters ; but what, save a sense of public duty or of religious duty could have urged these men to stand by an Institution from which they reaped nothing but contumely ? Much has been said ignorantly, some, I dare say, has been said maliciously or wantonly ; but it would be well to reflect, that if those who desired the destruction of this College had attained their object, all chance of a liberal education in New Brunswick would have been extinguished for half a century to come or more. What would have been more likely to lower the credit of a Colony in England or elsewhere, than to have had it said that there a College was established on a broad and liberal basis, and at a great expenditure of public money, and that afterwards the people would not take advantage of such an Institution to raise themselves in the scale of civilization. It would be as much as saying—we are a poor ignorant people, and we love our ignorance ! We have seen the sun, but we hate its light ; darkness is more congenial to us.