

command our confidence, while we have no better guarantee for their impartial and enlightened administration.

We do not wish it to be understood, that we would have even such men wholly excluded from place or power, but we must say, that we cannot think it politic or safe to give them an ascendancy, in any department involving great public interests, on which their peculiar views and sectarian feelings have any bearing.

From the subjoined note, it will be seen that the Governors of King's College, in Canada West, and of M'Gill College, in Canada East, are men of whom some, and those too holding very prominent and influential places in their government, have forfeited the confidence of this community, a few of their own sect excepted, and though there may be among their assessors men of more enlarged and catholic spirit and principles, they are too few to be regarded as sufficient guarantees for the protection of our interests, and perhaps there is not one among them that any of us, had the privilege of such election been vouchsafed to us, would have chosen as his representative.

Is it not a fact that, with the unimportant exception of two or three, who happen to be members, in virtue of civil office, the Governors of King's and M'Gill Colleges, are of the communion of the Church of England? Is this doing justice to the Universities? To the country? Is it fair; is it respectful to the numerous bodies of other denominations? While the Clergymen of all other Protestant denominations and the public at large are, at this moment, in profound ignorance of what has been done, or of what is devised, who shall wonder that we hesitate to give a blind and implicit confidence to the measures, which such Governors may see fit to adopt, measures, too, which may produce lasting, and, it may be, very injurious consequences? Are two or three individuals, however respectable, sufficient to fulfil so high a trust, as the organization of great public institutions, which ought to be rendered equally open, acceptable and serviceable to all sects and parties?

#### KING'S COLLEGE, TORONTO.

*Chancellor of the University:*

His Excellency the Right Honourable Sir CHARLES BAGOT, G. C. B.,  
Governor General of British North America.

*Visitors:*

The Honourable J. B. Robinson,  
The Honourable Jas. B. Macaulay,  
The Honourable J. Jones,  
The Honourable J. McLean,  
The Honourable C. A. Hegerman.

*President:*

The Right Rev. John Strachan, D. D. & LL. D., Lord Bishop of Toronto.

*Council:*

The Hon. R. S. Jameson,      The Hon. R. B. Sullivan,  
The Hon. A. Curtiler,      The Hon. W. Allan,  
The Hon. W. H. Draper,      The Hon. J. S. Macaulay,  
The Rev. J. McCaul, LL. D.,      The Hon. L. F. Sherwood,  
The Rev. H. J. Grassott, B. A.

#### M'GILL COLLEGE, MONTREAL.

*Governors:*

His Excellency the Governor General,  
The Chief Justice,  
Dr. Strachan, Bishop of Toronto,  
Dr. Bethune, Rector of Christ's Church.

Are we not all as much interested and as well entitled, as the members of the Church of England, to be consulted as to the constitution and modelling of them; and shall we not be permitted without the imputation of intrusiveness, to crave that the voice and the will of the great majority of Protestants in this Colony shall not be treated, as if it were of no account?

We see an advertisement for Professors and Tutors, emanating no doubt from the Governors of M'Gill College. Is it too bold to ask what are the number and qualifications of the judges and electors who are about to appoint men *after so short* a warning, to fill the Chairs of the University? Will the interests of literature and science be safe in their custody? Will this precipitancy inspire confidence, or does it sugar well for the fame of this great school of letters? Will literary and moral qualifications be alone required of the candidates for office? Will not adherence to the Church of England compensate for inferior scholarship, and the absence of that adherence neutralize, in the opinion of such judges, the highest literary merits? Do the Governors not shrink from the responsibility which they must incur, and the unsparing scrutiny and censorship to which their present proceedings will most justly be subjected in the Colony, and in the parent country?

Indeed we cannot allow ourselves to believe that the enlightened and liberal portion of our brethren who adhere to the Church of England will approve of such partial proceedings, because we cannot imagine them so blind and miscalculating, as to deem that the temporary possession of such exclusive power and influence, would not be bought at far too dear a price by setting them in a hostile attitude to the great body of their Protestant brethren in this Colony.

Is there not cause then for alarm? Is there not good ground for this Appeal? When we look around the various Colonies of British North America, what is the actual state of our Protestant Colleges? In what hands is their government vested? Are they fitted to inspire equal confidence in all classes and denominations of Her Majesty's loyal subjects? Is there no respect of persons or of creeds? Do they fulfil their ends in the most ample measure? Or, what is the cause that they are shorn of their power, lustre and influence, and the public deprived of the equal and full participation of their benefits? Is it to be tolerated at this day, and in this part of the British dominions, that these noble institutions should be cast in a party or sectarian mould, that they should be trammelled, dwarfed, drained of their vital power and spirit, paralyzed in their free and generous action, by a preposterous and antiquated illiberality? In fact, until these institutions throughout British North America shall have been effectually emancipated from the preponderant ascendancy of one sect or party, thrown open to the public, and their government made at least virtually responsible, it is not possible to entertain the shadow of a hope that they will fulfil their end and command public confidence.