

*A statement concerning Queen's, submitted
to the Founders, the Graduates and
Alumni, and the Benefactors and
Friends of the University.*

MY DEAR SIR,—

May I ask you to read the following statement which I have written with a desire to be brief.

Nearly fifty years ago, the Supreme Court of the Presbyterian Church in Canada decided to establish a University on the Scottish model. It was a bold undertaking. Dr. Cook, one of the founders, in his Chancellor's address ten years ago, frankly admitted that. However, a sense of what was owing to their own honour and Scottish training, as well as a sense of the needs of the Church and the country, left no other course open to them. They were scholars and knew what they were undertaking. "It was not," says Dr. Cook, "till every effort had proved unsuccessful to obtain some share of the grants which had been made for the purposes of University education, or to have King's College made then what it is now, a Provincial instead of a sectarian institution, that we resolved to act for ourselves." In 1839, at a meeting held in Hamilton, Kingston was selected as the site that would best suit both Upper and Lower Canada. In 1840, the Trustees, Hon. William Morris being Chairman, made formal application to the Queen for a Royal Charter, and on behalf "of the Scottish inhabitants of Upper and Lower Canada" asked permission to hand down to posterity Her Majesty's Royal Title as the name of their infant institution. They "most ardently trusted that it would be the means under the blessing of Divine Providence of conferring a liberal education on the Canadian youth of the present and future generations." The year following, the Royal Charter passed the Great Seal. Her Majesty graciously consented that the new University, the first, so far as I have ascertained, chartered in her reign, should bear Her title. Forthwith, Queen's began its beneficent career. It