

ization of their ideal. But I am not without hope that, when our claims are fully understood, their reasonableness will be acknowledged. In the recent arrangements for providing accommodation for the Legislature, a site has been appropriated on the University grounds which, with their confirmation, was in 1858 leased to the city on the express covenant that no building should ever be erected thereon. But an older Act of the Canadian Parliament, provides for the erection of a "Parliament House, and buildings for the accommodation of the several public departments on such portion of the ground forming part of the University endowment as may be found requisite, and such"—it was enacted—"shall be vested in the Crown for the public uses of the Province." The Act further declares that the land thus appropriated "shall be valued and the interest of the value thereof so ascertained, at six per cent. per annum, shall be paid yearly out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund to the credit of the University Income Fund, and shall forever form part thereof." This Act, so far as I can ascertain, has never been repealed. The rights then acquired are now being exercised; and the moral obligation to fulfil the terms on which they were obtained cannot be ignored.

As to the power of the Legislature to appropriate for its own use the site originally destined for the University building, it would be vain for the University Council or Senate to dispute it. Its advantages have only been too obvious. It is declared in their Act of 1880 to be "the most eligible for the purpose." But, if so, it is right that I should recall the fact that the Act of 1853 provided that all property vested in the corporation of the chancellor, masters and scholars of the University of Toronto, shall from and after the coming into force of this Act be vested in the Crown.

Moreover, by the University Act of the same year the Senate and the College Council ceased to have any authority in the administration of University property or any power to dispose of it; and the Bursar became an officer of the Crown. The Government have therefore been from that date, and are now, the trustees of the property. Any formal concurrence by the Senate of the University, either as to the leasing of lands to the city, or their appropriation by the Legislature, could have no force in relieving the Provincial Executive from their responsibility. It seems only necessary to draw the attention of the Legislature to the terms on which the site of their new building was originally appropriated for their use to secure the fulfilment of the conditions. The Province is led to anticipate a large return from the sale of the former site. Some portion at least of that is manifestly due to the University for the more eligible one, where, on the 23rd of April, 1842, the Governor-General, Sir Charles Bagot, as Chancellor of the University, with impressive ceremonial laid the foundation stone which during the past year has been so unceremoniously displaced. In view of past proceedings thus called to notice, and the actual saving to the whole Province arising from the appropriation of the old University site, it cannot be deemed an unreasonable proposal that the Legislature shall give practical effect to their late statute by endowing at least two of the new chairs therein declared indispensable for the efficient organization of the University.

The plea is urged not only on grounds of equity, but in the interest of higher education for the whole Province. The principle which underlies the idea of University Federation will yet, I trust, assert itself in all the amplitude of a generous sympathy with whatever tends to promote true