

Well, the question has been carefully considered, and while Queen's positively declines Confederation, Trinity gives only a conditional assent. It seems probable, therefore, that if the scheme is consummated, Victoria will go into it alone; and they who can see in this any possible result save the entire absorption of the College, must surely have a capacity to believe the impossible.

II. THE SCHEME CRITICISED.

Let us now look a little more closely at the scheme itself. Professedly it is a plan to form a Confederation of Colleges with a common University: in reality it is a scheme framed in the interests of the present University College and University of Toronto. It is well known that these two* institutions have been strongly urging upon the Provincial Government the necessity of a much larger endowment. Had they succeeded in obtaining the increase, it is morally certain they never would have entertained the proposed Confederation scheme for a moment; but feeling that the resolute opposition of Queen's and Victoria to further endowment was likely to prove an insuperable barrier, they consent to an arrangement which, while securing all the additional funds they desire, will give them a virtual monopoly of the higher education of the Province. So strong a statement requires proof: the printed scheme supplies it.

In the first place it will be observed by those who have read the document in question, that while the first paragraph contains a list of Universities and Colleges which shall have a right to enter into the proposed Confederation, University College is studiously excluded. Why is this? Is it because that College is already confederated with Toronto University? That cannot be the reason, because the present relation to the University is not that of a Confederated College, any more than the relation of Victoria College to Victoria University is one of Confederation. The reason manifestly is that under the new arrangement University College is to sustain a relation to the Provincial University entirely different from that of the Confederating Colleges. Had not this been intended by those

* Two in name and two in functions, but virtually one in organization and management.