

Governor of the united provinces, gave his consent to proceeding with the buildings, and the opening of university work under temporary arrangements in the old Parliament Buildings on Front street.

In asking His Excellency's assent to this step, Dr. Strachan, now Bishop of Toronto, revealed the new course of his university policy. He says :—"The Church of Scotland and its members in the province were among the earliest and most strenuous assailants of the Royal Charter of King's College, as unfriendly to civil liberty and unjust and inexpedient in its provisions. They were warmly supported by large bodies of the Methodist Society. And no sooner had these two religious societies succeeded in compelling such an alteration of the charter as wholly deprives King's College of any acknowledged religious character and consequently of any security in respect to the religious doctrines which may be taught there, than they set themselves actively and successfully to work in obtaining from the Government and from the Legislature charters for the foundation of two colleges, in such strict and exclusive connection with their respective religious denominations, that, not only the government of each college, but the whole business of instruction to be carried on within it is required to be absolutely in the hands of those who declare and subscribe themselves members of the one religious society; and, your Excellency will perceive, in so decided a manner that, not the members of such church only, but the clerical members of it shall control and govern the whole."

In another paragraph, Bishop Strachan dwells with justifiable pride upon the beauty of the site of King's College : "There is nowhere upon this continent anything of the same kind superior to it, and I doubt if there is anything equal to it." The plans for the buildings, of which there were two complete sets bear witness to the fine taste and large ideas of Dr. Strachan; they are imposing in effect, and classical in design,—a credit alike to the architect and the council.

We have now arrived at the beginning of the year 1842. Bishop Strachan lost no time in carrying his views into effect. Fresh energy was introduced into the council in the person of the Rev. H. J. Grasett, M.A. The financial accounts showed available funds to the amount of £45,348 with £28,843 coming due. Lands yielded a rent roll of £2,453 and the total net income was £7,740. There were 20,800 acres of land neither leased nor sold. It was therefore resolved to bring the university at once into operation. Application was made for the temporary use of the Parliament Buildings, as the seat of government had been removed to Kingston. An estimate was submitted proposing the expenditure in four years of £18,000 for buildings, which, with the royal grant of £1,000 a year, was expected to cover the cost of the erection of