

We have bestowed this large measure of attention on the U. C. College drafting system, not only because it has been excessively injurious to the Grammar Schools, but because it has given rise to the most absurd misconceptions regarding the character and functions of U. C. College. The prodigious extent to which that institution has carried its vain-glorious advertising, [218] has greatly tended to mystify the public on these points. It was doubtless under some such misapprehension that the Legislature *permitted the insertion* in the Municipal Institutions Act (1866) of that clause [219] to which Mr. Cockburn triumphantly alludes, and in which we think we discover a strong flavor of his own peculiar diction. This misapprehension has been shared by even Grammar School Masters. On no other supposition are we able to account for the fact that Masters have laid themselves open to the charge of incompetency, aye, and even of dishonesty, by accepting the salaries attached to their Masterships, and then transferring to U. C. College what the law declares [220] to be one of their most important duties,—the preparation of youth for the Universities.

Mr. Cockburn emblazons, in gold, on the walls of U. C. College, the names of distinguished students, the success of many of whom, both there and at the University, must be mainly or wholly attributed to the Grammar Schools. These golden letters reflect the least possible lustre on Mr. Cockburn. Instead of appropriating, by means of these delusive inscriptions, the previous labors of the Grammar Schools, and depreciating their merits, how much better might Mr. Cockburn have expended this gold leaf in the emblazoning of the Decalogue, certain precepts of which are of obvious application in the past history and present administration of U. C. College.

AN ENDOWED BOARDING HOUSE.

This peculiar feature in U. C. College, deserves some attention. We have here the only part of that institution which is even nominally Provincial, and, on the ground that it is nominally Provincial, the Province has had to pay pretty roundly for its support. As in all similar institutions, whose support is not made dependent on prudent management, the mismanagement in this Boarding House has been frightful. With three or four exceptional years, it has never paid expenses for the entire thirty-eight years of its existence. In 1851 it had been in operation for twenty-one years; and yet the Principal tells us that it was in that year for the first time in its history, self-supporting. [221] And this proved to be but a spasmodic effort to keep the expenses of the Boarding House within its income; for, in 1856, there was a deficit of \$422 40, [222] in 1857, a deficit of \$1172 85.* In 1858 the Senate of

218 The account for advertising amounted in 1866 to \$151.49; in 1867 to \$154.87, (Mr. Christie's Return, p. 9, and p. 15.)

219 29 and 30 Vic. Cap. 51 § 288. Mr. Cockburn incorrectly cites the section as "208."

220 Consolidated Grammar School Act [22 Vic. Cap. 63] § 12.

221 Report of the Principal of U. C. College for 1851.

222 Evidence taken by University Select Committee, 1860. Reply of Bursar to question 283.

* Ibid.