

IT seems to be tolerably certain that the Ontario Legislature is about to destroy—or practically so at least—Upper Canada College almost the only independent institution providing secondary education in the province. This being so the suggestion arises; would it not be possible to establish in the western portion of the province, say in Hamilton or London, some academy under the auspices of Queen's, which, while allowing all possible freedom of choice to the pupils attending it, might act as a feeder to the University. Being beyond government jurisdiction it could be made to afford a worthy secondary education somewhat similar in character to that given in such English schools as Harrow, Eton, Rugby, &c. Certainly we could not expect it to immediately become such an institution as one of these, and yet some of these have had but small beginnings and their present position is due to the fact that they did good work even from the first. We believe that the time is ripe for the establishment of such an academy in Ontario, for it is very evident that if the educational institutions of the province are to be developed along the lines which the Department is chalking out for them the term 'educational' as applied to them will be a decided misnomer, if it be not at present but a polite fiction to designate many of them as such. Even while compelled to pay the school tax, those who know what an education should be, and who could afford to send their sons to such an academy, would gladly avail themselves of the opportunity rather than see their children's time wasted and their intellects maimed and racked on the mental Procrustean bed set up by the Education Department. Though a certain amount of capital would be required to start such an institution, yet there can be small doubt that before long it would be self-supporting, and very probably a good part of the original fund could be

obtained from the city in which it would be located. As a matter of fact provision had already been made by a previous Government for the establishment of several schools similar to Upper Canada College, one of which was to have been located in Kingston. But it is in vain to expect a government which would seek to destroy the only one in existence to carry out the original design, which is still, we believe, an eminently wise one. Every day it becomes more evident that on private liberality and that alone must the higher education of this country depend. Such a lesson has been taught to our friends in the United States and they are profiting by it, for, while the state educational institutions are, in the majority of cases, either sinking out of the educational world or preserving a torpid existence, its institutions supported by private benefactions are flourishing and doing by far the best work in the country.

WHO shall define Philanthropy? Wide reaching and varied, as insanity itself; like it, its true meaning still undefined. In all its varied forms, in all the charities and charitable we see it daily, hourly appearing as in the past, and yet we have not reached its true use and meaning. We see—we know—the many in need of charities and yet after all what have we accomplished? Our mothers have been our pilots here in good works and many; our grandmothers, in older countries, dispensed sweet charity, and generation after generation past and present have exhausted and are exhausting their energies to the same well nigh fruitless end; not fruitless altogether, but, in comparison with the time and energy expended, most unproductive. Birds wearing out their vital strength in hopeless, however steady, beating cannot wear away the bars that make their purpose void. Their prison song, if sweet, is sad. They wist not why it is, but so it is, and