

Another question which concerns our future, is that which relates to the employment of native or imported teachers. Of course in a question of this kind extreme views are simply absurd. To determine that we shall never go beyond what our own country can produce, would be to doom ourselves to stagnation and perhaps to retrogression. To determine that we should employ only teachers from abroad would involve us in hopeless difficulties. Wise men and wise nations will do all that they can to develop their own resources, but will seize every opportunity to obtain from abroad that which may tend to progress and improvement. No educational institution can afford, when it has vacancies to fill, to take anything less than the best men it can obtain anywhere. Other things being equal, native learning and ability may claim a preference, and they have undoubtedly the best chances of success. Practically, however, it must be borne in mind, that in this country, few young men can be induced to devote themselves to education as a profession. The work of the merely general teacher has few attractions and holds forth no prizes. The positions requiring special teachers are few in number, and the preparation necessary for them is not within the reach of all, while the talents specially fitting for them are still more rare. It is not wonderful, therefore, that few of our graduates in Arts enter on any special preparation for educational work. A larger number of professional graduates find opportunities for teaching in connection with the pursuit of their professions. On reference to actual facts, I find that in this University, twenty-six of our professors and lecturers are Canadians, and of these the greater part are graduates of our own. Besides these, I have reason to believe, that at least as many more of our graduates hold professorships and other important teaching positions in other institutions. For a University which has been sending out graduates for only a little more than twenty-five years, this is no discreditable record. In the future I anticipate still greater progress in this direction, and none the less that we may occasionally induce a man of learning from abroad to join our ranks and give to some of our subjects of study a new impetus. As a British American myself, I should deprecate as discreditable to my country any attempt to hinder the fair competition of men from abroad with ourselves, or to deprive this country of the benefits it may undoubtedly receive