THE CANADIAN

Anited Presbyterian Magazine.

Vol. VII.]

TORONTO, APRIL, 1860.

[No. 4.

Miscellaneous Articles.

SECTARIAN SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES.

It excites no astonishment that principles of recondite character and of secret, though, far-reaching, influence, should be ill understood by the multitude. But it does awaken wonder and regret that a principle patent to all—lying as it were on the very surface of thought and of things, and practically and painfully forced on public attention from year to year, should remain utterly unapprehended by very many of the comparatively wise and really good in Canada at the present time. The religious and political agitation just now in progress, by a large and worthy portion of the protestant population of the Province, to secure the governmental endowment of a sectarian or denominational college is a striking illustration of the ignorance to which we allude

and which we sincerely lament.

Those who have a personal or party interest in Victoria College, at Cobourg, have been holding meetings of late in various parts, at which the averred claims of that excellent Institution to share in the funds of the unsectarian University at Toronto, were zealously urged by the speakers, and in general cordially sanctioned by the hearers. It is very far from our wish to impugn the motives, either of those who spoke or of those who assented to the sentiments advanced at these meetings. We are anxious to believe that both parties were prompted by zeal for the interests of learning, morality, and religion in the land. But, though in charity bound to admit all this, we have no hesitation in saying that their zeal was not according to knowledge—that their judgment was lamentably at fault. The resolutions adopted at these meetings are, in spirit and tendency, antagonistic to a great and an important principle,—a principle very little attended to, although it intimately concerns God's glory, the Church's purity, and spiritual