

its character, that its advantages were open to all ; no tests were required from Professors or Students, with the exception of the Professor of Divinity and of Graduates in that faculty.

But it was avowedly a College in connexion with the National Church, and provision was made in the Charter for ensuring unity and consistency in its discipline and government.

If it had been otherwise, the Charter would have been such as had never before issued under the Great Seal of England for the foundation of a University to be endowed by the Crown in any part of the British dominions. Yet, because it was complained of as unreasonable and unjust that a University should be founded by the Sovereign in connexion with the Established Church of the empire, it was thought expedient to allow the Royal Charter to be so altered by a Colonial statute, as to leave no trace in it of a connexion with the National Church.

This change was made in 1837 ; and, as was foreseen by many, it half accomplished the ruin of the University. For though neither religious instruction nor Divine worship was excluded, and though in deference to the express wish of the Sovereign, King William IV., a Professorship of Divinity according to the doctrines of the Church of England, and the daily use of her admirable liturgy, were tolerated for a time, during which the University was flourishing, and rapidly rising in public estimation and confidence, yet the Colonial legislature, having been once allowed to mutilate the Royal Charter, has not stopped short in the work of destruction.