

The necessity of arriving at some decision upon this question has become still more urgent, from the cessation of the Funds by which King's College has been supported, and the consequent embarrassment which will be entailed upon the President and other Officers belonging to the College, who, for a number of years, have filled important stations in the Establishment.

The subject has so often engaged the attention of this Department, that it is not necessary to enter in detail into the arguments which may be urged in favor of an union of the two Colleges.—The difficulties which stand in the way of the completion of this measure seem to me so easy of removal, that I can scarcely allow myself to suppose that they will not be overcome when the subject has been duly considered by the Assembly.

You will therefore take an early opportunity of bringing it again under their notice.

There is only one point which it occurs to me to suggest, connected with this subject—it is, that the Presidency of the College should be thrown open to all Candidates, like the other appointments, whenever the present holder, (Dr. Porter) may vacate the Chair. Such an understanding would greatly facilitate the satisfactory arrangement of this important question.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

E. G. STANLEY.

The Acting Governor of Nova-Scotia, &c. &c.

No. 1.

SIR—

DOWNING-STREET, 30th APRIL, 1835.

I have had the honor to receive your Dispatch of the 18th February last, addressed to my predecessor, on the subject of the union of King's and Dalhousie Colleges, in the Province under your Government, and explaining the reasons by which you had been deterred from making to the Legislature of Nova-Scotia the communication which was recommended to you by Lord Stanley, and which had been previously more than once indicated to your predecessors in the Government of the Province, as the only means of escape from the difficulties with which the question is surrounded. I have perused your Dispatch with very serious regret, because the repugnance which appears from it to be felt by the Governors of King's College, to adopt the only measure, upon condition of which the assent of the Legislature to the union of the Colleges can be obtained, seems likely to preclude the possibility of an amicable arrangement. After the most attentive and anxious consideration of the question, and after reverting to the correspondence which has heretofore taken place upon it, I can discover no other solution of the difficulty than that which has been thus frequently suggested. The subject has, I am sorry to observe, become so much complicated by the length of time during which the controversy has lasted, as to be no longer a question of Collegiate discipline, but to involve the existence of any College at all in the Province.

I need hardly recall to your recollection the correspondence which has taken place upon this subject—since, during the last five years, it has occupied a prominent place among the questions connected with the Province of Nova-Scotia, to which the attention of the successive Secretaries of State has been devoted. In the month of August, 1832, Lord Goderich, who, at that time, held the Seals of this Department, recommended that the two Colleges should be united, and that the framing of the Constitution should be conceded to the Legislature—following in this suggestion the opinion of the Attorney-General of the Province, as stated in Sir Peregrine Maitland's Dispatch of 19th March, 1832. Lord Stanley, who appears to have adopted the same view of the case, in a Dispatch, dated the 25th November, 1833, recommended to the Acting Governor the throwing open of the Presidency of the United College to all persuasions, after the expiration of Dr. Porter's tenure; and previously to your proceeding to the Province, he repeated that recommendation to yourself. I have every reason to believe that my immediate predecessors in this Office adopted the same views. It may therefore be confidently stated, that on the part of the Ministers of the Crown, there has been no reluctance to meet the wishes of the Legislature of Nova-Scotia upon the subject. On the contrary, had their suggestions been followed, it is probable that the controversy might long ere this have been permanently and satisfactorily arranged.

You state that the Governors of King's College consider it essential that the head of the United College should always be a Clergyman of the Established Church, in full Orders; but you at the same time admit that the House of Assembly would not sanction the desired union, so long as any restriction of this nature should be allowed to exist. Apprehending, therefore, that no good result could, under such circumstances, be expected from bringing the subject before the Legislature, but, on the contrary, that a revival of it might induce the Assembly to require the repayment of the sum of £5000 lent to Dalhousie College, you abstained from making to them the communication which Lord Stanley had directed. The Assembly, however, have themselves originated the question, by renewing their demand for the payment of this debt—a demand which, if enforced, could only be met by a sacrifice of the greater portion of the Funds invested for the endowment of Dalhousie College. Under these circumstances you recommend that the debt should be paid, and that, whatever should then remain of the endowment of Dalhousie College, should be applied to the support and improvement of King's College. In this suggestion I cannot by any means concur, since it seems to me to hold out but little prospect of overcoming the difficulties with which these Institutions have at present to contend. Those difficulties have arisen from the want of a sufficient re-