

origin, considered it a mere trap, falling into which would have destroyed the identity of Trinity Medical College, to which Institution, in his letter to me, the Minister pays the warm tribute of having "*already contributed greatly to the improvement of the medical education of the Province.*"

You find fault with me for using the term "trap" in reference to the "amalgamation" proposed to Trinity Medical College by a Committee of the Senate of the University of Toronto, and most incorrectly speak of this expression as casting a slur upon many very honorable and well known gentlemen who were members of that Committee. Now, I am quite certain that *most* of the gentlemen you name, regarded the proposal in question as an excellent one, and that they had not the remotest idea of anything being in it which was not, in their opinion, calculated to promote the best interests of the University first, of course, but likewise of all concerned.

But the plan proposed was a "scheme" nevertheless, editorially advocated in your journal at its rise, then *persistently* pressed upon the Minister of Education by gentlemen, several of whom are now members of the restored "*Faculty*," and it was so pressed, not at all in the interest of Trinity Medical College, nor of her Professors, but simply in promotion of their own, which, by an easy and most natural process of reasoning, they soon came to regard as identical with those of the University of Toronto.

For Trinity Medical College to have become a party to the proposed "scheme" (for this was the term constantly made use of in private conversation by its promoters), would have been simply not only folly, but annihilation, suicide, or any other stronger term, if such can be found, to express self destruction.

You quote with great gusto the concluding sentences of another old letter of mine, to the effect "that it will be time enough to give full consideration to the subject of amalgamating the two Medical Colleges in Toronto when the Government and Legislature of Ontario shall have fully decided to 'create, equip and liberally endow, a new Medical teaching body,' giving a salary of not less than \$2,000 a year, and a good retiring allowance to each professor, when from age or ill-health, he is no longer fit for duty."

On first reading your article, I could not re-

member having written this; but quite accidentally I have since come across a letter I sent to one of the city papers, dated March 28th, 1887. At that time we had heard that a good deal was being said and done by the promoters of the "scheme," but this was just before Trinity Medical College had heard officially from the Senate's Committee on the subject. Now, *could* you not, *should* you not, have been ingenuous enough to say, in giving the closing sentences of that letter, that it was the end of a communication written for the sole purpose of showing, from every possible point of view, how *unwise* and how *undesirable* it would be to *restore a Medical Faculty to Toronto University*, and thus reduce that institution in Medicine, from the truly *Provincial* position she had so long occupied, as a centre round which many distinct affiliated Medical institutions might cluster, each sending up to her from time to time, its quota of candidates for examination and degrees, to that which she now holds, of a mere local Medical College, competing eagerly for students, as would inevitably be the case if the proposed "restoration" should ever become an accomplished fact? In this very letter are also the words, and why did you not quote these as well as the others? Supposing the "Medical Faculty" to have been "restored," I add: "All other Medical Schools may not subside at once as expected, and its policy (that of the supposed 'Faculty') *would*, indeed *must*, be, to belittle, and if possible to *destroy*, other schools, by virtue of the supposed overshadowing auspices under which it would be set agoing, and the *public aid* it would count upon receiving."

I ended this letter as I did, because I regarded, *and this too on very high authority*, the conditions supposed by me as to "endowing and equipping," and the giving of the salaries and retiring allowances referred to, as just as unlikely to occur, as would be the appointment of the Editor of *The Canadian Practitioner* as Accoucheur-in-chief to the Royal Family of Lilliput or of Brobdingnag.

I never have, and never will, cherish other than the kindest feeling towards all Sister Institutions, including under this term not only all our Medical Colleges, but *all* our Universities as well. It is for the good of our country at large that all of them should continue to prosper in the highest degree, and I would not wrong or injure one of