

offensive manner in which the thing was done, the short notice given, and the injustice shown to men whose salaries were dependent on the annual grant.

This then is the view taken by Queen's men generally of State Aid to Higher Education. But, should the Government insist upon re-opening the question, then they are quite clear that anything short of a comprehensive measure would be wantonly unjust. The public meeting held in Kingston, in January, 1885, as soon as "the Confederation Scheme" was published, adopted this view, but at the same time insisted that if the Government adopted anything like the scheme before them, it should be made comprehensive, and include Queen's in its operation. By the establishment of the proposed School of Science, Queen's would be included, in the way most calculated to serve, with due regard to economy, the material interests of the Province, and absolutely in accordance with the principle that Governmental control must be co-extensive with Governmental expenditure. But, since this proposal was made, oddly enough, two other cities, that were not even represented at the conferences, have discovered that they would each be greatly the better of a School of Science. No doubt they would. And it is not for me to contest their claims. The Government must decide each case on its own merits. But it ought to be enough to quote on this point the language of the memorial of the Municipalities Committee:—

"In no other place than Kingston is such a school required as a matter of equal justice to and for the safety and protection of a university, built up by the people themselves against what would be the outside aggression of the Government itself.

"In favour of no other place has a whole section of the country demanded it on these grounds.

"And in no other place than the seat of a well established university can it be placed with equal economy and certainty of success."

Those who disregard these facts have made up their minds beforehand, and are ready to catch at anything as an excuse for doing nothing.

Having thus tried to indicate our attitude, I may add that, so far as we are concerned, it matters little what course the Government may take. Happily, the sources to which Queen's owes her existence and steadily growing strength are quite independent of political parties or Government favour. Queen's has been for nearly half a century a practical protest against materialism, political and economic, and exclusiveness and narrowness in education. With justice and intolerance have she stayed her ground, she hath not moved, because there are people enough in Canada who understand her worth, and who sympathize with her all the more when she does not receive fair play. All the responsibility is on the Government, and confessedly its path is beset with difficulty. The safe course, and, in the long run, perhaps the best for all parties, would be to do nothing, except to free the Provincial University. But, if something must be done, and the compact with Victoria requires the establishment of a new professoriate, how can Queen's be ignored? Confessedly the country has ratified our decision to remain at Kingston. Can any Government say: "We shall aid Victoria directly and indirectly because it comes to Toronto? We know that you ought not to come, but none the less must we ignore you. Our principles are limited to locality." A strong Government may say so, but the position cannot be held permanently. We may be able in the meantime only to protest, but a good many Canadians will not disregard our protest.