

These two general objections to the proposed federation of the colleges in Toronto force us to oppose the scheme and in this objection we are looking at the interest of education throughout the province without any reference to the interests of any particular institution. That the various colleges which the scheme proposes to remove to Toronto may with good reason object to the scheme we fully believe. Some of these we purpose referring to in our next with a special reference to the one which we esteem it an honor to be allowed to call our Alma Mater.

A VISIT TO CAMBRIDGE.

ON a pressing invitation from some Cambridge friends whose pleasant acquaintance I had formed at Montreal during the meetings of the British Association, I left London one Friday afternoon by the fast express on the Great Northern Railway to visit this city of colleges. I had never been at Cambridge. My ideas of a college and college life were derived from my old Alma Mater, Queen's, and from McGill and University College, Toronto. I had years ago read "Tom Brown at Oxford" and "Mortimer's College Life at Cambridge," but for the entire difference between Queen's and Cambridge in the college government, in the style of buildings and their interior arrangements and in the student's daily routine of duties, I was quite unprepared. Everything had an air of novelty about it to one whose experience was only gained in America. My quarters were to be at St. John's College, where Principal Hicks of Fifth College, Sheffield, had placed his cosy suite of apartments at my disposal, but a call *en route* thither had to be made at Emmanuel College, where I was to meet Prof. Greenhill of the Royal Artillery Institution, Woolwich, one of the Moderators of Cambridge University. On the hansom drawing up before the gates of Emmanuel, the first feeling—soon however dissipated—was that of disappointment. Let not the Queen's student picture to himself lovely and extensive grounds planted with grand old oaks and elm, and in their midst an olden, ivy-clad pile of college buildings. That might describe Jesus College, but like most of the other colleges, Emmanuel is directly on the street, in the very heart of the town, and in the midst of the dwellings and shops. A genial liveried porter is ready to answer enquiries and take note of delinquent students. Passing through an arcaded entrance, the principal court of the college is reached. This court is perhaps two hundred and fifty feet square and is laid out in paved walks. Completely surrounding it, shutting out the world beyond, are college buildings comprising the dining hall, chapel

and suites of rooms for the officials of the college and the students. Every suite is complete in itself and includes generally a library, sitting-room, bed-room and pantry, each opening on a small hall, which in turn opens on the staircase common to every five or six suites and leading to the court. Over each door off the staircase is the name of the official or student who occupies the rooms, and again at the entrance door at the foot of each staircase opening on the court is a list of all those who have rooms off that staircase. Emmanuel has two courts or quadrangles but Trinity has three and St. John's four. Under the porter's directions I reached Prof. Greenhill's rooms, where, in addition I met Mr. Ernest Foxwell, of St. John's College, a brother of Prof. Herbert Foxwell of University College, London, the able successor of Prof. Jevons. Together, we all went to St. John's, passing on the way through Trumpington Street, that avenue of noble colleges, flanked across the river Cam by what is termed "The Backs," which form a continuous succession of pretty gardens, lovely lawns and pleasant groves, the properties of the various colleges. On this street are met, in quick succession, Peterhouse, Pembroke, Corpus Christi, Queen's, King's, St. Catharine's, Caius, Trinity, Trinity Hall, and St. John's. It made an old Collegian feel proud of having taken a college course. Peterhouse, the first reached, is the oldest of the Cambridge Colleges, having been formed by Hugh de Balsham in 1257. It is said to be celebrated for its eminent men. A memento of the poet Gray is still retained in a large iron cross bar in front of one of the windows of the fourth story. Gray was very much afraid of fire and had an apparatus made, under which he could quickly and safely from his window reach the ground on the first alarm of fire, and of the apparatus the cross bar formed part. His fellow students were greatly amused and it gave occasion for a practical joke. One evening whilst one party of students raised the cry of fire in the corridor, another deposited a large tub of water immediately under his window. It was as they expected. On the first alarm the window was thrown open, the apparatus adjusted, and, in another few seconds, the poet was emerging from the tub of water—a wiser man. It is said that he did not forgive his fellow students but left the college and joined Pembroke near at hand—the Alma Mater of William Pitt, of Edmund Spenser and of many distinguished churchmen. Perhaps the most notable building between Pembroke and St. John's is the chapel of King's College, a splendid specimen of gothic architecture unsurpassed in Cambridge. Of all the colleges, Trinity is the largest and most celebrated, and every student of conic sections will recognize the name of its late master, Dr. Whewell, who at his own expense, added another—the Master's court—to the great quadrangles which distinguish this institution. The entrance to the college is by the King's Gateway, which dates back to the time of Henry VIII, whose statue commemorates the fact. The library of Trinity is famous both for its architecture and the valuable works it contains. It was de-