

University at Kingston, and removal to Toronto would be considered by many a breach of the understanding upon which the funds were subscribed.

The friends and supporters of Queen's have always felt the need of a university in Eastern Ontario. Such a seat of learning has a powerful influence in inducing young men to enter upon university life. It has an incalculable influence in promoting the development of merit and genius throughout a wide surrounding district. Many a student comes to Kingston who would not go to Toronto at all. This advantage would be lost to the eastern half of Ontario if Queen's were moved away from Kingston, and the cause of higher education would proportionately suffer. Again, Kingston is regarded as a place peculiarly suitable for a university seat. In a great city the university, however imposing it may be made, can never be a dominant feature. The mercantile interests will always overshadow the educational. But in Kingston the university is the dominant feature. Its influence pervades the whole atmosphere. Again, students can live at a cheaper rate—a most important consideration to many; and what is of vast importance to all, they are not exposed to the temptations of a large city. Queen's has undoubtedly a power of usefulness in Kingston which she could never have if moved elsewhere. To move would sever Queen's from traditions, associations and affections; and by what so much as these does any college live and grow?

The committee hold the view that the interests of the public and the cause of higher education in the Province of Ontario will be immensely better served by the existence of two or more well-equipped universities than by having only one. It is not an advantage to have all the educated men of the country cast in the same mould. Several centres of education result in distinctive features of teaching. As Scotland has been a great gainer by the contributions of thought given to her sons by her four universities, so also would Canada by having more than one. The four universities of Scotland were established when Scotland had less than half the population which Ontario now numbers. The seats of learning, Glasgow, Edinburgh, St. Andrew's and Aberdeen, have long been famous. They are all situated at points some forty miles apart. They are all in part state supported. When the Government recently proposed to reduce the number by obliterating the smallest, St. Andrew's, an indignant protest arose from one end of the country to the other, and to-day a fifth is being established to meet the intellectual wants of a population only one half larger than that of Ontario. Scotland is justly celebrated for her system of higher education and her universities, and the success which they have achieved is the strongest testimony we can have that Ontario should have more than one.

At the present moment the universities of Scotland are attended by over six thousand students while Ontario, with two-thirds of the population, has under fifteen hundred. The proportion of the Scotch universities would be to Ontario four thousand students. To have such a

number of students congregated at one university seat would for many reasons be undesirable. Similar remarks will apply to Germany, perhaps the most economical and best educated country in the world. Numerous universities in the United States are being endowed to an unprecedented extent by benefactions from private individuals, who recognize the healthy influence which is exercised upon the whole community by a sufficient number of flourishing centres of learning in various districts. The nearest approach to centralization has been in England; but even there the rivalry of Oxford and Cambridge has had a beneficial influence, and it is now admitted that the benefit would have been greater had there been more than two centres of thought. More recently England has added the universities of Durham, London and Victoria, and to-day colleges richly endowed are springing up in every section of England and Wales.

For the various reasons set forth, the committee are unable to recommend that the trustees should resolve to enter the proposed union. There are other reasons of a special character which need not be alluded to. One thing is perfectly obvious to the committee. The true interests of the country and especially the cause of higher education in Eastern Ontario requires that Queen's College should remain fixed to her moorings. If Scotland has for centuries supported four famous universities, Ontario with her two millions of intelligent people requires at least two well equipped centres of higher education. While the existence of these institutions would lead to a generous rivalry, productive of activity and excellence, it is to be feared that there were only one, it might relapse into a state of lethargy, from which would result only dullness and mediocrity.

These are the views of the committee, and as far as ascertained, they are the views of every graduate and benefactor of the university. But as Queen's is supported by private beneficence it is only right to consult all its constituents throughout the Dominion before final action is taken concerning the scheme submitted to the board.

The committee recommends that a respectful representation be made to the Government embodying the views of the authorities of Queen's University regarding the policy of higher education in Ontario, and the necessity imposed on them of delay till the Convocation, to be held in April next, before taking final action on the memorandum submitted by the Minister. They desire also to express their satisfaction that the wisdom of enlisting in university work private and denominational liberality, as well as public endowment and grants, is recognized in the memorandum. This policy, the Committee submit, cannot possibly be limited to one locality. When there has grown up, in a great measure through sacrifices made by the people of Eastern Ontario, a university like Queen's the policy must be applied to this section of the country, unless the resources of the province are to be brought into unfair competition with the proved necessities of a section of the province. Otherwise, the State would be