

THE CANADA
EDUCATIONAL MONTHLY
AND SCHOOL CHRONICLE.

JANUARY, 1879.

UNIVERSITY CONSOLIDATION.

BY ALPHA.

THE subject of University Consolidation has received considerable attention during the past year, both in Europe and America. The consideration of the question has been revived and brought prominently before the public of this Province by a paper read at the convention of the Education Society of Eastern Ontario, held at Kingston last July, by Mr. D.C. McHenry, M.A., Principal of the Cobourg Collegiate Institute. The topic was discussed, also, in the High School Section of the Ontario Teachers' Convention, last August. Resolutions were passed expressing the conviction that some suitable form of Consolidation is highly desirable. Steps were taken, moreover, to bring the subject more directly before the authorities of the several universities, with a view to the securing of the necessary legitimate action.

At present we give an outline of Mr. McHenry's paper, reserving for a subsequent number the consideration

of some of the more important features of the question.

The speaker in his introductory remarks referred to the difficulties surrounding this many-sided subject, and thought present discussion would be fruitless were it not highly probable that the question will soon again claim general attention; in which case the benefits of an interchange of opinion may be apparent.

The school system of Ontario is the pride of every Canadian patriot and the admiration of other lands; a University System, however fondly anticipated and long contended for in the past—is yet a dream of the future. In the chain of what ought to be our national system of education, there is a serious rupture at the point where we leave our Secondary Schools for the University. Up to this point all is consecutive and harmonious, but here the road diverges into many paths; uniform and systematic progress gives place to promiscuous