

Looking, then, at this great subject from a truly national point of view, the question is simply this:—By what system can the Legislature most easily give a Collegiate education acceptable to the largest number of the people? Is it by erecting and endowing several Colleges, or by engaging at a reasonable rate those Colleges which have been already erected and which have secured a large amount of public favour? The latter plan claims adoption on the following grounds:—

1. It has been in successful operation for many years. The country has gained an immense advantage by it; and what individual or interest has suffered?
2. It will preserve in historical reality the most valued connections of hundreds of alumni and graduates, whose position would be seriously affected by the impoverishing of the Institutions at which they have been educated.
3. It is comprehensive in the respect which it pays to important differences of opinion. University College, Toronto, will continue to suit the views of those who believe that a College should have no denominational connection, and many who are indifferent on the subject. Denominational Colleges will accord with the sentiments of such as prefer them, and as hitherto their doors will be open to many others whose ecclesiastical predilections will suffer no offence.
4. It agrees with the principle of religious liberty. It neither rejects nor employs the service of Institutions *because* they are denominational, but without respect to their denominationalism engages them to labour for the diffusion of literary and scientific learning.
5. It honours the right which all men have to share, as equally as possible, the convenience and facility with which a legislative provision may be enjoyed.
6. It harmonizes with the practice of the Government in giving only a supplementary aid to local or sectional Institutions.
7. It will certainly extend the benefits of Collegiate education to all classes of society, and to a much larger number of persons than can be reached by any other arrangement.
8. On the score of economy it especially commends itself. The annual expenditure on account of it, even supposing it to be acted upon more extensively than it has yet been, will be much less than the annual charge created by the erection and maintenance of one non-denominational College in any locality.