

for the education of your daughters, and such an education as will not only fit them for this life, but help them to prepare for the life to come. We take this occasion to remark, that it was a vital principle with our venerable founder, and is becoming increasingly so with the Methodist connexions of England, Ireland, and the United States, as it is also with the Wesleyan Methodist Church of Canada, that academic and collegiate institutions ought always to be accompanied by religious and moral influences and be made subservient to religious and moral aims. It has become the settled conviction of Methodists throughout the world, that these institutions ought to be under the influence and control of Christian communities, which shall be responsible for the tone and character of their teaching and discipline. This is our principle, and woe to us if we ever abandon it! Not only the future Christian character of your sons and daughters, but the future Christianity of your country itself, is, in a very important degree, dependent upon the institutions that are to form the minds of the coming age.

The extensive ravages of pestilence, in different nations in Europe and Asia, has produced a general expectation that the present season would witness its ravages in America, with its usual fatality in the destruction of many thousands of lives. Hitherto we have been mercifully spared, for which we are bound to offer devout thanksgiving to Almighty God. Let us earnestly implore him still to spare the people; and let us by earnest humiliation, and by a full trust in His condescending care, place ourselves entirely in His merciful hands. Above all, let us, by seeking His pardoning mercy, and by living daily in the light of His countenance, secure an unflinching confidence for the hour of trial, should the threatened visitation come; and let us more zealously seek to lead others to the only refuge from danger, and the only antidote to the fear of death.