



Upper Canada College, 1876-91

*From an etching in possession of W. G. Gooderham, Esq.*

Cambridge "Blue" and classical scholar. "He was of the Old School, very strict, but very just. He took part with the boys in all their games, especially cricket, and was a good boxer and fencer, and an expert oarsman, as one can understand, because he was one of the Cambridge Eight in the proposed race, which I have heard him say was cancelled because of some dispute in regard to the waters upon which the race was to have been rowed. It is said that he made the boys fight their own disputes, and stood close by to see that all was fair."

Of his successors, G. R. R. Cockburn will live in the memory of all, tall and erect, a shrewd and sturdy Scot, who by canny investments increased the value of the endowment and after his retirement became a member of Parliament and President of the Ontario Bank.

#### CONFLICT OVER THE ENDOWMENT

Under Mr. Cockburn and his successors was waged the conflict over the Endowment, which came to a head during the storm and stress of the eighties. The competition throughout the province for University Honours was growing steadily keener; the large endowment of Upper Canada College and her system of Exhibitions enabled her to attract the best masters and a large proportion of the best pupils; her roll of honours and of scholarships grew longer and longer; and she was in consequence exposed to the jealousy of the provincial High Schools and Collegiate Institutes. Meanwhile an erroneous impression was abroad that the endowment had been granted from lands originally designed for the University and the secondary schools. With some electors the cry that she was a rich man's school was not without weight, however preposterous in view of the low scale of the fees. In spite of the large number of "Old Boys" who were either farmers, or the sons of farmers, an attempt was made to decry the city school among the rural