

But the Law, as it now stands, is defective in providing means for carrying into effect the policy in regard to Academical Education, on which it was framed. That policy is indicated by the reference in the preamble of the Act, to the University of London, and there are now in the Legislature, members of the Government from which that Act emanated, who can testify what that policy was. It was after the example of the University of London, to have all the collegiate bodies of the Province affiliated to the University, which alone was to have the power of conferring Academical degrees. In this way, it was supposed there would be given to the University the dignity and importance necessarily belonging to a body, to a great extent, regulating and controlling the whole collegiate education of the Province, that there would be a uniformity of value in the University honours and degrees, and that there would be created, in the different affiliated colleges, a spirit of generous rivalry, to send up their respective Students, well qualified to claim such honors and degrees. That such was the policy of the Government at the time of the passing of this Act, the undersigned can himself testify, having been consulted by a member of the Government, as to the terms and conditions on which the affiliation of Queen's College could be brought about.

And it was a wise policy. Mr. Gladstone, one of the most accomplished scholars, as well as statesmen, in the Imperial Parliament, and peculiarly fitted by his academical experience to give advice on such a matter, recently recommended the same policy to the Scottish Universities, giving it as his opinion that, for the advancement of learning in Scotland, it was desirable that there should be in it only one University—an examining body—to confer degrees, and that the present Universities should be affiliated Colleges, for the sole purpose of giving collegiate instruction. How it was that a policy, the benefits of which are so many and obvious, was not carried out, can easily be stated. The Government required, as a preliminary and necessary condition to affiliation, that Colleges having University powers, either from the Crown or by Provincial enactments, should surrender their powers; and there was a cry at the time, as there probably still is in many, a feeling, against the application of public funds to Denominational Colleges. The Colleges were naturally unwilling to surrender their University powers in order to enjoy what, under the fluctuating legislation of this Province, might prove but an uncertain and precarious benefit; and the Government did not care, by the partial endowment of Denominational Colleges, by which only affiliation could be obtained, to place itself in opposition to the party cry against such Colleges, however well convinced of the folly of it—as how, indeed, should the Government or any reasonable man not be? For what objection could it be to Academical education, if sound and good, of which not any Denomination, but the University, was to be the judge, that such education was given by Episcopalians, or Presbyterians, or Methodists? Unfortunately, the wise policy of the Government was abandoned, and another initiated, according to which, the University and University College, instead of being separate, and the one the judge of the efficiency of the other, are, as was recently stated by Dr. McCaul, practically one and the same, and the whole University endowment of the Province is applied to the exclusive benefit of University College. Against such exclusive application of the public funds for University purposes, I am instructed by the authorities of Queen's College to protest, as unjust, unnecessary and injurious to the extension and improvement of Academical education in Canada.

The policy now seems to be to build up one College, and by its ample endowments, its numerous scholarships, and its magnificent buildings, to crush all others. What is done for University College has been already stated. Of the sum of £5,000 set apart by the Legislature, out of the general revenue of the country, for the encouragement of Academical education in Upper Canada, £1,100 are given to a Grammar School in Toronto, already richly endowed, and the residue is divided among four other Collegiate Institutions. It is certainly possible that the success of this policy might be attended with some advantages. In an Institution numerously attended, there is a greater stimulus to intellectual activity and exertion;—an advantage, however, counterbalanced by the greater chance of moral corruption, there being of necessity a less close and watchful surveillance over the Students. But however this may be, what has been assumed to be the present policy is not likely to prove successful. Trinity College, Queen's College, and Victoria College will continue to be sustained, whatever be the fate of the present application to the Legis-