

THE PRESBYTERIAN.

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We have a considerable sum due on our books, by way of subscription, for the current year, and we would feel obliged to those of our supporters, whose accounts are still unpaid, if they would remit.

Our object for some time back has been to work our paper into such a position that we might have an annual surplus to pay over to some of the schemes of the Church. We have emerged from the debt under which we laboured for some time; we have a good list of subscribers; and if our outstanding accounts are *duly and promptly remitted* to us, we shall be able to do, what we are sure our supporters desire—to apply, without fear of retrograding, to the benevolent schemes of our Church, the profits of *The Presbyterian* for the year 1863.

The exceeding importance of the subject is our excuse for again adverting to University Reform. We desire to inform our readers as to the present position of the question. This is rendered necessary by the partial way in which the recent proceedings of the Senate of the University of Toronto have been represented in some Upper Canadian papers.

A few months ago the report of the University Commissioners was printed, and the country put in possession of the results of their inquiries. The report fully confirmed the charges that had been made in reference to wasteful expenditure, on the part of the University of Toronto. The effect of this waste was to deprive the affiliated Colleges of the surplus to which they were entitled by the Act of 1853. It has now been clearly established, that these colleges have been spoiled of a magnificent endowment provided by statute. The report proposes a scheme by which reparation may be made and the education of the country promoted. This scheme consists of two distinct parts, viz. the academic and the financial.

1. *The academic.*—The commissioners drew up a set of queries in reference to the re-organization of the University, and these were sent to the heads of each of the affiliated Colleges, and to the Senate of the University of Toronto, for answers. The replies shewed a gratifying amount of unanimity, and the scheme of the commissioners is founded upon these replies. The essential features of this scheme are: (1) A general University Board to be called the "University of Upper Canada," in which each of the affiliated Colleges is to be equally represented; (2) A common examination for degrees, by examiners appointed by the University Board, the students of each College to be examined at their own College; (3) An equivalent curriculum in each College; (4) The conferring of degrees by each University in virtue of its own charter, but only on students who have passed the examination of the general University Board. The Senate of the University of Toronto unanimously agreed to this plan at a very large meeting, and the head of University College also gave his unqualified assent. The commissioners, in putting their queries to the various Colleges, carefully avoided complicating the academic scheme with any financial matters, and the answers were expected to be purely academic. The Senate of Toronto, however, thought it right to insert a saving clause to the following effect:—"It is to be understood that this suggestion is not intended to interfere with the endowment of University College, it being the opinion of the Senate that University College has a first claim to a fixed endowment, amply sufficient to its support in its present state of efficiency." This was assented to by all the members, as it was in accordance with the Act of 1853. The Senate, however, did not recommend any plan of apportionment of the surplus, this being left by the Act to Parliament.

2. *The financial.*—The commissioners