

judicious system of Government Scholarships, sufficiently liberal to support a student, during an academical career of four years, at that University which, by its discipline is acceptable to his parents, or by the superiority of its teaching is attractive to himself—it is true, that in this way the flow of students towards our various Universities may be greatly increased; yet, after all, the Grammar Schools must remain what they have hitherto been both in England and Canada, the Seats of Learning for the masses of the people. Not a few of the greatest writers in our language owed all their education to Grammar Schools. England is not likely soon to forget that she is indebted for Shakspeare to the Free Grammar School of Stratford-by-the-Avon.

Well, now for the result afforded by Toronto University Lists! And on this delicate matter we shall permit another than a Grammar School Master to speak. An able and careful writer who has given our system of Grammar Schools and Universities much attention thus states the result of his inquiry. [217] "In the University Papers it is recorded that, 'of eight Scholarships obtained in 1858 by pupils of Grammar Schools, only one was obtained by U. C. College! In 1859, of nine scholarships in the Faculty of Arts, the pupils of this School again obtained only one, the other eight were carried off by pupils from the Grammar Schools. The pupils of U. C. College have in some cases, the advantage of being examined by their own Masters.'" If we now take the period from 1859—1867, will Mr. Cockburn kindly inform us, how many Matriculation Scholarships, in excess of one per annum, can U. C. College honestly claim? How many Honor Men, the more important part of whose University preparation was not, even in Mr. Cockburn's contemplation, acquired elsewhere than in U. C. College? It will no longer do for the Principal of U. C. College to indulge in such frenzied statements as abounded in his last literary effort. He must, however reluctant to be taught, learn from us to quote authority. Come, come, no diffidence! Give us the names, Mr. Cockburn!

Injurious to the Grammar Schools as has been the premature withdrawal of advanced boys, it could easily be shown, were it now worth while, that this system must have been not less injurious to U. C. College itself. The Teachers in that Institution instead of vigorously addressing themselves to the task of working up the pupils from the lowest forms, will, from the habit of receiving supplies from the Grammar Schools of 4th, 5th, and 6th form boys, have naturally come to consider the junior pupils as unworthy of attention. This conjecture would seem to derive confirmation from the University lists. How few boys do we there find that have worked up their way to the University from the lowest forms of U. C. College! Some there undoubtedly are; but so few are they in number, that one is inclined to say that those boys who have succeeded in accomplishing this feat have done so rather *in despite of* the system pursued, than *by means of* it; that they owe more to their own indomitable energy, than to that of their Teachers.

217 "Extravagant Expenditure in Toronto of the U. Canada University Endowment," by the Rev. W. H. Poole. 2nd Letter, dated Cobourg, March 6, 1860.