

York, ex-officio President of the college. On the 3rd of January, 1828, the new lands for endowment already selected were conveyed by letters patent to the Corporation of King's College thus created, and steps were taken to secure, for the erection of buildings, the payment of the grant of a thousand pounds a year which had been obtained from the Imperial Government by Dr. Strachan. This grant was equivalent to a further extension of the original land grant, and the money was derived from payments by the Canada Company for the large tract of land which had been ceded to them. A registrar and bursar were also appointed. These, together with the president, were placed under salary, and through these officers the work of selling or leasing the endowment land was at once commenced. In a short time a considerable income was available.

The President and Council next proceeded to select and purchase lands for a suitable site for the university. Whatever may be said of other parts of their policy, for their work in this direction they will deserve the gratitude of all coming generations. The purchase at one hundred dollars an acre, of one hundred and sixty-eight acres of beautiful park lands on which have been erected both our parliament and university buildings, was one of the wisest investments ever made on behalf of the university, and is an enduring memorial to the large views of these men. It is only to be regretted that the next generation did not inherit these ideas, and marred their work by alienating and dividing the magnificent estate thus secured. The expenditure of six thousand seven hundred and five pounds in planting and improving Queen's Avenue has not been so well justified by the result. It is the natural beauties of the park, not the exotics of the avenue, that lend the chief charm to the university site. The expenditure of a thousand pounds on plans for new buildings was not extravagant; and although the buildings themselves were never erected in full; the plans still survive as another testimony to the grand ideals of the men of that original University Council.

In 1828, on the return of Sir Peregrine Maitland to England, Sir John Colborne was appointed Lieutenant Governor. The result of the select committee of the British House of Commons appeared in instructions from the Colonial Office, which Sir John did not at once communicate to the council, but under which he ordered that proceedings for the erection of the university buildings should be discontinued. In the meantime he brought into operation, outside of the charter, but through the Corporation of King's College, a minor college, which absorbed and was in a measure an enlargement of the Royal Grammar School founded more than twenty years before. Thus it was that Upper Canada College originated, which for two full generations, sustained most important financial as well as educational relations to the university, and has ever