

Canada there are only two Methodists that he knew of. This is a very small percentage considering that the Methodists represent $17\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the whole Dominion. In the Province he came from the Methodists represented $31\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the whole."

Men talk of losing prestige through becoming a partner in a great and flourishing national university and sharing all the advantages it has to offer. It seems to us that we shall lose prestige very much more if we refuse to take advantage of the opportunity now offered us. It is possible that in our educational policy we have been segregating ourselves too much from the public and political life of the country, and by confining our educational work largely to denominational lines, have not done our duty in assisting, to the full extent of our resources and numbers and influence, to mould the character of the Provincial University.

The fact that there are to be competing colleges in affiliation with that university will remove, we think, the objection to the centralizing influence of the federation movement with the alleged tendency of such centralizing to cause mental paralysis and torpor. Indeed, we think the presence of such competition will prove a mutual stimulus and greatly promote the quality of the teaching in all the colleges. Certainly Victoria, which has won such a reputation as a live, vigorous teaching college, need not shrink from the test.

Much stress is laid upon the supposed superior moral advantages of a small town over a large city as the seat of a university. There is some force in the argument. But we must meet the difficulties. Young men and young women come by thousands from the country to the cities to work in shops, stores, and other places of business. They are exposed, often with no watch-care or oversight and with idle evenings, to all the temptations of city life. The students of Victoria University average, we believe, about twenty-two years. They are to be subject to sedulous care and oversight, and their course of study

will occupy most of their time during both day and evening. If they are ever to develop manly character it will not be by being cooped up out of the way of supposed temptation. The cities are the centres of social, political, literary, commercial and religious influence. It is highly important that those who are to become leaders of opinion in the future—many of whom come from the country and return to the country—should have during the period of college life the educating influence of a city—the social refinement, the mental alertness, the sharpening of the wits that comes from the daily attrition of city life. The very fact of meeting, in the intimacies of college life, young men of other Churches, and of diverse habits of thought and mental characteristics, and of enjoying personal relations with a large number of professors and learned men, for a series of years, has a broadening effect upon the mind, and is itself an admirable preparation for the cultivation of friendly and sympathetic relations in the wider arena of public life.

The medical department of Victoria is now, and must of necessity always be, situated in a city. Its theological department could make its influence much more widely felt in Toronto, in the city churches, in city mission work, and in the surrounding country, than it possibly can elsewhere.

The writer of the anonymous pamphlet argues that Victoria University can carry on at Cobourg the full work of a University, adequate for the times, in all its departments with greater economy than it can in federation with the well-endowed Provincial University, which will assume the cost of a large part—and that the most expensive part—of the professorial work now supplied by Victoria at its own cost. The mere statement of this argument seems to us its own refutation.

It must not be forgotten that we cannot as a Church go back to the position we occupied two years ago on this question. The large representation of the different Churches in the governing body of the proposed Confederated University is a guarantee as to its religious character and