

good one? How than can your University be productive of good to this country, and what can justify the continuance of the present Charter?

Again—it has been proved that the church of England is no more *the* established church of this country than any other church or denomination, and that even according to your own principles it ought not to be. Why then should the only endowed seminary of learning in the Province, be placed under the sole direction of that church? Why should the church of England have the control of a University, with an endowment of £1000 *per annum*, for 16 years, and 225,944 acres of land in this Province, to the exclusion of all other denominations, who, our Provincial Parliament says, “are equally conscientious and deserving and equally loyal,” & who are perhaps more than twenty times as numerous as the members of the church of England? What measure could be more impolitic—more disgusting to the generality of the population? What circumstance could excite more jealousy, and tend more to alienate the affections of the country from the British Government, if the measure is persisted in? Can the great portion of the Canadian inhabitants feel themselves kindly or justly dealt with, when they cast their eyes across the water, and see the light of science equally accessible to *all*—the means of education and literary distinction equally extended to diligence and merit of every creed, and then turn their eyes upon the land of their nativity and say—“tho’ we are British born subjects—tho’ we have never known or thought of any other civil creed than to be true to our Sovereign and country—tho’ our loyalty to our king and our diligence and faithfulness in obeying the laws of the country are unimpeachable—tho’ we are as useful citizens as any other class of the population;—yet the sun of literature—that highest of earthly blessings—is hid from us and our children! He shines upon a *few* others, but our *religious* profession prevents him from emitting one ray to our benighted minds—our *duty* to our *God* excludes us from the favour of our king—and unless we sacrifice the sacred principles of our holy religion, we must let our children grow up in the midnight shades of ig-

norance, or send them to a neighbouring Republic, in order to obtain blessings which are withheld from us and our posterity in our native land, which our forefathers have bled and died to secure to Great Britain!” Are not the subjects of a Government its support and dependance? And are not subjects equally faithful and loyal, equally deserving? And is it not a breach of faith in the government (if I may speak so) to grant to a *small portion* of its subjects, privileges and endowments, which give them a decided advantage, both in a civil and religious point of view, over the great body of their fellow subjects? If the subject owes a duty to the government, the government, as a minister of God for good, owes a duty to the subject likewise—and we believe the British government feels a peculiar pleasure in discharging this duty, and therefore we are assured “that his Majesty (to use the words of E. W. Armstrong and 51 others in their petition to the House of Assembly) was imposed upon by misrepresentations, and that if he had been truly informed of the condition of the Province, and the religious views and feelings of his people here, he would never have given his royal sanction to such a charter.” Therefore sir, as it was obtained by means of misrepresentation & incorrect statements, and as it is unjust and injurious to the interests of the country to give a minor church, which only numbers about 734 communicants, while several other churches number as many thousand, an exclusive control of education, the present charter of our York University ought to be cancelled.

To continue the present Charter would defeat the designs of his Majesty in granting it.

The reasons assigned in the Royal Charter for the granting of it, are *the promotion of the “welfare of the Province, and the application of many of his Majesty’s subjects.* This was the impression under which his Majesty sanctioned the Charter, and that was the object he had in view in granting it. Now what is the “application of the many of his Majesty’s subjects” in this Province, on this point? From the “application” of more than 7000 petitions to the Imperial Parliament—and the “application” of our House of Assembly, which has been seen, in the foregoing letter, according to your own