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AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A COLLEGE, BY THE NAME AND STYLE OF THE  
UNIVERSITY AT KINGSTON:

PREFATORY NOTE BY THE EDITOR:

We have sometimes felt as if drawing upon the indulgence of our readers, in submitting to their attention documents connected with the proceedings of our Presbyteries and Synod, even while conscious that such documents were in themselves important. It is our desire, however, in our editorial labours, rather to follow what is for edification, than to run in that path which should conduct to the flimsiness of fiction. The truth is, a good magazine should resemble a sea-worthy ship. It must have strength as well as beauty, and ballast as well as sails; and if the alternative were really submitted to us, whether we should have a journal well stored with sound information, though dry, or one which had only the excitement of tales and fictitious episodes, we should not feel any hesitation in giving the preference to the former.—The latter may please for a moment, but when we turn its pages for a second perusal, they are found impertinent and loathsome. We do not think, therefore, that we need any apology in transferring this act of our provincial parliament to our pages. It will form part of that record of documents connected with our Presbyterian Church, which it has been our care, since we commenced our labours, to submit to our readers. It is a document which we are forward to acknowledge as honorable to our provincial legislature. It has been our duty, on divers occasions, to withstand a party, once dominant, but now fallen, who, in the teeth of the most solemn national pledge, wished to set

themselves at the head both of the executive and legislature, and to say to us, humble Presbyterians, stand back, you have neither part nor lot in these matters; but in this act, incorporating our college, and giving it the sanction of our provincial government, we see a proof of a better, and we may add, a more *conservative* spirit. It has been the principle of Protestant governments, since the days of the reformation, to cherish, with a fatherly care, seminaries for the training up of youth in learning and piety, and, hence, we find the venerable Melancthon, on one occasion, when addressing persons in authority, saying, that schools and colleges were a surer defence to a nation than fortresses or walled cities. And, in this act of our Canadian legislature, we observe a recognition of this principle. The physical capabilities of this province would indicate its future greatness.—Its means of moral and intellectual training are, as yet, small, and we hail, with much joy, the present act, as a token for good. It will be observed, that it confers on all our people an interest in the concerns of the proposed seminary:—"Each congregation admitted on the roll of the said Synod, and in regular connexion therewith, shall, at their annual meeting, nominate, every third year, one fit and discreet person, being a member in full communion with said church, to fill the office of Trustee of said College. And the persons so nominated, being duly intimated by the several congregations to the Secretary of the Board of Trustees, in such