

University powers,* and ultimately the abandonment of all educational work, save such as may be done in a Theological School.

The action of the Board is in marked contrast with the course taken in regard to Methodist union. In that memorable movement, although a number of individuals expressed their personal judgment through the press, no Connexional Officer, no Church Board or Committee, uttered a word or took a step till the question had been taken up by the General Conference and a deliverance given upon it. Then, when the Conference had spoken, the Committee charged with the duty of formulating a basis of union carefully and thoughtfully discharged their task, sent the results of their labors, as instructed, to the Quarterly Boards and Annual Conferences, and subsequently to the General Conference, where the whole question was finally discussed and determined. But in regard to College Confederation, before action had been taken by any Church Court, interviews are held by representatives of Victoria College, on their own authority, with the representatives of other Colleges, and with the Minister of Education; a scheme of Confederation is formulated; the Board of Regents are called together, and an attempt made to secure their endorsement of the scheme. Surely in a matter of such grave importance the judgment of the General Conference should have been sought before the Board was asked to commit itself in favor of the proposal.

When a meeting of the Board was called, not a few of the members attended with the expectation that the proceedings would be entirely conversational; that the various clauses of the proposed scheme would be carefully talked over with the view of ascertaining how far they commended themselves to the judgment of the Board, and that then the whole matter would be reported to the General Conference for discussion and final action. But such was not the course adopted, for the meeting opened with lengthy and elaborate speeches in favor of the scheme as a whole, and the expected conversation resolved itself at once into a regular debate. Resolutions approving of the scheme, and amendments repudiating it, were

* The phrase used in the document under consideration is that each confederating College shall "keep in abeyance" its power of conferring degrees; but the power once placed in abeyance, no one is simple enough to expect it will ever be resumed.