

ficulty, by an application to government. To this we have been indirectly invited, as appears from the public speeches of the Hon. John A. Macdonald, Attorney General of Canada West; and from his encouraging reply to my application on the subject, in which he says that, if granted, 'I am sure that it will not be clogged by any conditions that would render it difficult or impossible to accept.'

"So much in explanation of the resolution. But what do we find, in referring to the report? Instead of a simple enquiry, giving us information respecting the state and working of collegiate institutions in the province, and the particular objects and views of the government (if they can be ascertained) in establishing and modifying a new University, we are called upon at once to receive the following principles: 1st. That it is desirable that there should be a University for Upper Canada, which should embrace all the bodies in the province possessing academic powers; and that all graduates of these bodies should be entitled to the same standing in the Provincial University. Now I do not consider such a colossal University desirable or applicable to the wants of the province. It is said to have failed in Australia; but, be that as it may, as it would be in a good degree without competition, it would either sink gradually into indolence, or in process of time by its greater power and influence injure all other institutions, and not only trench upon their independence, but at length extinguish their vitality. The reason why the London University shows so much life is that it confines itself, as far as I can find from its charter and calendar, to public examinations and the conferring of degrees. It admits of no teaching whatever in the common meaning of the word, and is rather felt as a kind protector than an arrogant master.

"2nd. That the separate colleges to be incorporated into the Provincial University, should be required to abstain from the exercise of their right to confer degrees, excepting degrees in Divinity, so long as they remain in connexion with the University.

"No such severe assumptions as these are exercised by the London University. All the colleges and institutions connected with it, so far as I can find from the charter, &c., continue in all things free within themselves. Even in the conferring of degrees matters are so arranged by the London University, as not to interfere with the arrangements of the colleges and educational institutions. The undergraduates of them all have the option of taking their degree, if found qualified, at their respective colleges, or at the London University, with the simple provision that they must make their choice, as they cannot be taken at both. Hence in this respect there is no interference or restraint imposed upon any of the colleges by the London University itself. And here it may be remarked that the Board of Commissioners of Education in Scotland, corresponding to the University proposed here, confer no degree, but merely regulate the local colleges and institutions in the manner of giving them. The same practice is followed by the Medical Council of England. It gives no degrees, but allows them to be conferred under its guidance by the local institutions. It may be further noticed that the Board of Regents at Albany, as the head of the various local institutions, and which is called the University of the State of New York, confers no degrees, but merely regulates the manner of conferring them, as the Commissioners of Education in Scotland.

"Were the proposed University of Upper Canada to be formed truly on this model, there would be no sacrifice whatever; on the contrary

those who prefer to exercise their privilege in taking their degrees at the Provincial University of Upper Canada, would, in many cases, so far enjoy a positive advantage in having the power of choice. Again, it does not appear that the colleges and institutions in connexion with the London University, scattered as they are throughout Britain, ever take any part in the management of the London University, or are ever called upon or permitted to share in its business arrangements. Were the connexion between the collegiate bodies no greater than is required by the London University and similar institutions at home, there might be no serious difficulty in according to it, but we are called upon to surrender all the portions of our Royal Charter which we chiefly value, and for which we have been strenuously contending for many years. Moreover, our charter is felt to be a sacred trust granted by the Queen, on our own petition, and we have no power to suspend, alter, or surrender any of its provisions.

"In the second principle, it is also required that all the separate colleges be incorporated with the University. Now what is meant by incorporation, the extent of the power it confers; no such condition is imposed by the London University. Why, then, should it be imposed here?

"3. That there should be two distinct bodies for the administration of the affairs of the University, viz.—1st. A general board of management to have the control of all financial matters.

"This provision requires no other remark than that in operation it would be found inconvenient and unwieldy.

"2nd. An Executive Council of Senate, which should have 'entire control of the educational system of the University, within the limits prescribed by the charter'. The said Executive Council or Senate to consist of graduates of the University, representatives of the separate colleges.

"This power appears too extensive, and in its exercise inconvenient, but till the terms of the charter are proposed in more detail, it cannot be satisfactorily considered."

"The 3rd. That there should be no interference on the part of the ministry in the internal administration of the property, education or discipline of the separate colleges."

"This third provision appears full and reasonable, but requires some elucidation, when taken in connexion with the power conferred upon the Executive Council and Senate."

After the meeting at which the foregoing report was adopted, it was found impossible to secure the attendance of sufficient members of the Committee to authorise those members who did attend to take any further action as a Committee. The only thing left for those members who took a deep interest in the question was, by interviews and correspondence with the Government, members of Parliament, and others moving in the same question, to secure such "a measure from the Legislature as would be consistent with the interests of the Church and the improvement of University education." And your Committee have much pleasure in being able to report that their labours have not been entirely in vain, as the Senate of the University of Toronto have unanimously assented to a scheme of affiliation, which it is confidently believed will hold out inducements sufficient to cause the several chartered colleges to become connected with the University of Upper Canada. Your Committee have reason to believe that it was the intention of the late Government to introduce a measure into Parliament in accordance with this scheme; and from the well-known feeling of the Legislature

on the subject, and the publicly expressed opinions of the present Premier in reference thereto, there is every reason to believe that the measure will be carried next session, when Trinity College will be able to benefit by a share in the public endowment on fair and equitable terms, and to bear its part in raising the standard of University education throughout the country, without the slightest surrender of those highly cherished principles, on which it was so auspiciously established eleven years ago.

All which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed) T. B. FULLER,

Chairman.

Rev. Mr. DARLING, seconded by Dr. BOVELL, moved the adoption of the report of the committee on Separate Schools.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF SYNOD ON SEPARATE SCHOOLS.

Your committee beg to report that, having been in communication with the Chief Superintendent of Education, they learned that a bill had been prepared by him for the amendment of the existing school law, in which the just claims of the United Church of England and Ireland to the control of her own schools in cities, towns, and incorporated villages, had been recognised and provided for, as far as seemed practicable, under existing circumstances.

As the general provisions of the aforesaid bill had been submitted to his Lordship, the Bishop, and had met with his approval, and farther, had commended themselves to the judgment of those members of your committee who had the opportunity of considering them, and as, moreover, your committee understood from the Chief Superintendent that he had reason to believe that the bill would be brought in as a government measure, they felt, under the circumstances, that no further action on their part was required.

In consequence, however, of the severe illness of the Chief Superintendent, and his inability to be present at Quebec, his proposed bill has not been brought forward, and a member of the house has introduced a private measure, intended to afford additional facilities for the extension of Romish schools.

Your committee would therefore recommend that petitions on the subject, similar to those previously prepared by the Synod be again presented to the several branches of the legislature, and that the attention of the members of our communion, in parliament, be earnestly drawn to the duty and necessity of endeavouring to secure for the Church of England and Ireland the same educational advantages as are accorded to the Church of Rome.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM S. DARLING,
Chairman.

Mr. HODGINS moved that the report be referred back to the committee to make the necessary modification.

Rev. Mr. DARLING—Add to the motion, that Mr. Hodgins be joined with the committee.

Mr. Hodgins' motion was agreed to.

Mr. HODGINS gave notice that he would move as an amendment to the resolution to be moved by Dr. BOVELL, and seconded by Rev. Mr. Darling, the following:—

"That as members of the United Church of England and Ireland in this diocese, we do not desire to see any interference with the common school system, as established by law, or to demand exclusive privileges not shared in equally by other protestant denominations in Upper Canada.

The Synod adjourned at one o'clock.