

sacratified learning had done much harm to the Church. The tone of public opinion and feeling seems now to be changed. There are scarcely any who do not show that they are sensible of the utility of education. Men who possess it are generally selected for places of importance; and in most denominations, some provision is made for the training of those who are to be invested with the ministry. It is safe to say that experience sanctions these views; and that the blessing of the Head of the Church has generally rested most abundantly on the labours of those who have possessed learning and other natural qualifications for office. So it was from the first. Saul of Tarsus was evidently a man of superior talents, and was distinguished for learning among the Apostles, having been trained in the school of Gamaliel; and see the place which divine grace assigned him in the Church. Consider how large a portion of the New Testament came from his pen; and reflect on the kind of his writings, not indeed of higher authority than those of his brethren, but undoubtedly by far the most fitted to furnish us with the materials for framing a system of theology.

Our own Church at home has always been careful to secure a considerably educated ministry; and a scheme of training has been there adopted which is found to give very general satisfaction. In Canada also, our denomination has shown a strong desire to avoid the inconvenience of an uneducated ministry. In order to this, we have depended mainly on, what is not to be thought of, except as a temporary expedient, a supply of Ministers from the parent Church; and great are our obligations to that Church for the kindly interest she has taken in us, the numerous able Ministers she has sent us, and the large sums of money she has long and freely expended on us. It was, however, felt that an attempt should be made to train up Ministers in the Province. A Divinity Hall accordingly was instituted a number of years ago, which has been attended with a degree of success for which we have abundant cause to be thankful. It has furnished a number of Ministers who are creditably and usefully occupying charges, and whose characters and labours are commanding the respect of the Ministers and Members of the Church. For the conducting of this institution a plan was adopted which has undergone several modifications, and I do conscientiously believe, no small improvement. It is, however, far from being already perfect; and it is surely not to be regretted that, in connection with the Union soon to be consummated between another denomination and ours, the scheme of theological education will be subjected to revision. May God give wisdom, prudence and grace to those to whom this duty has been assigned, to frame a system which shall work harmoniously and comfortably for teachers and taught; and shall afford to the Church a plentiful supply of learned, sound, and holy Ministers of Christ.

One chief point demanding consideration will be the preparatory