

It is hoped that the great object in view is thus far understood and appreciated. If the two Presbyterian bodies accomplish what is proposed, then, by the month of November, there will be a College in Halifax such as has not yet been witnessed in these Lower Provinces, employing six Professors in arts, enjoying a healthy and central location, offering young men all the privileges of the metropolis, and certain of a large attendance. If other parties shall avail themselves of the advantages of this act, the educational machinery will be still farther perfected by the establishment of medical and legal faculties, and considering the expansive nature of the groundwork, there is nothing to prevent Dalhousie College becoming a University like the University of London, McGill College, or the University of Toronto.

There are two aspects in which this undertaking may be viewed—a general aspect, in which it ought to be viewed by every lover of his country, and a denominational aspect, worthy the contemplation of the people of the Kirk of Scotland.

It will very much facilitate clear views on this subject for people to bear in mind, that the proposed college has nothing to do with the teaching of divinity. The great mass of people in this province have become so accustomed to view colleges as connected with particular religious bodies, that they find it difficult to conceive of a college not possessing this character. Dalhousie College will have no more to do with divinity than with farming or manufactures or mines and minerals. It will be established for the purposes of general education; though, for the better accomplishment of these general purposes, it will in some measure be indebted to the patriotism and benevolence of the Christian Church, which ever should take the lead in what conduces to the welfare of mankind.

It must be viewed as a deep disgrace to this province that it cannot point to its provincial university. While money is lavished upon objects of inferior moment, the state has hitherto neglected to furnish its rising talent with the means of mounting into positions of eminence, through such a higher education as other countries afford. Young men, obliged to travel beyond the limits of the province for a superior education, very generally remain and give foreign parts the benefit of these attainments, which their native country denied them. Were the oversight common or universal the neglect could not be considered so culpable, nor would the effect be so injurious. But, where will you find a province without its provincial college or university? Canada can point to the University of Toronto, with its noble buildings, costing £112,000; Lower Canada to McGill College; New Brunswick to King's College and even P. E. Island to Prince of Wales' College. Nova Scotia alone enjoys

the had pre-eminence of refusing to her population the benefits of a general institution, presiding over all other colleges in the land, and perfecting the educational system of the country, and in so doing, thwarts the enlightened views of a most patriotic nobleman, Lord Dalhousie, who devoted a large sum to such a purpose.

However much we may feel tempted to comment upon the doubtfulness of the policy or the economy of having so many state-supported denominational colleges throughout the land, all teaching the same and with an average of fifteen students to each Professor, we shall confine ourselves to one view of the matter, which ought to recommend itself to every impartial mind. Denominational colleges alone without a provincial university inflict an injustice upon a large proportion of good citizens. According to the present system, should any Christian body be not large enough to maintain an arts course [not to speak of other faculties] or, their ideas of education exceeding their ability, should they disapprove of small and imperfectly equipped colleges; then, under the present system, such a body must remain without the means of obtaining collegiate education. This injustice is aggravated by the fact that their members are meanwhile paying taxes for the support of denominational institutions of which they may and have a right to scruple to avail themselves. This injustice weighs upon three or four thousand Reformed Presbyterians, nineteen thousand Kirk people, four thousand Lutherans, two thousand Congregationalists, &c. While the argument may not necessitate the discontinuance of the denominational college system, it certainly points out the duty of the state towards smaller bodies—namely, the maintenance of a provincial university, open to all and excluding none.

It may be recollected that Dr. Forrester, in his Report, urges the establishment of a provincial university, with which the present denominational colleges may be affiliated, as necessary to the perfecting of the educational system of the country. The advantage would be, that degrees conferred would be of equal value over the provinces, and that the different colleges would be kept up to an average standard of efficiency.

The interests of science in this province demand the establishment of a provincial university. The denominational colleges originated and are kept up with a special view to qualify for the gospel ministry. The Professorships maintained are chiefly literary. The maintenance of these taxing the resources of the several sects severely, they are not able to maintain chairs of natural science, or subjects bearing more directly upon other professions. This is a great loss to a province surpassed by none in the variety of its natural productions and wealth. Surely there is need for a Professor of agricultural science,