

ACADIA ATHENÆUM.

TROS TYRIUSQUE MIHI NULLO DISCRIMINE AGETUR

Vol. 1.

WOLFVILLE, N. S., APRIL, 1875.

No. 6.

Acadia Athenæum.

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Thankful for the prompt remittances on the part of so many of our subscribers, we would respectfully call the attention of others to the fact that the end of the College year is speedily approaching. The amount of their subscriptions will be thankfully received and duly acknowledged.

A good deal has been said and written lately on denominational colleges, so called, and an attempt has been made to assign to them an inferior place as compared with those supported by the state under state control.

In our judgment this question is not so early defined in the public mind as it ought to be, and hence some of the unarrantable conclusions which have been drawn.

In the first place the error is committed in supposing that denominational colleges must be devoted largely to the work of teaching the religious sentiments of the people respectively sustaining them. But

this is not the case. On the contrary they are given up as exclusively to the teaching of purely scientific and literary branches as those which draw their support from the public treasury. Besides, the religious opinions of the students are never interfered with. They are as free in this respect as they could be in any state or Provincial University.

To those understanding the true import of the term "denominational" as applied to colleges, another idea altogether is conveyed.

For the want of a better word, or to avoid a circumlocution, this term is used to designate those colleges which are supported on the *voluntary* principle, as distinguished from those drawing their sustenance from the *state*. It might therefore be well for some persons to learn the true meaning of words, or the meaning intended to be conveyed by them, before rushing to the conclusion that the course of study pursued in colleges supported by the voluntary contributions of any religious persuasion or persuasions must necessarily be a "theologico arts" one. Immediately connected with the error just specified is that of supposing that the instruction given in denominational colleges must be inferior to that which may be obtained in state or Provincial Universities. But why so? Not surely because in the former it is paid for by private individuals, and in the latter from the public chest. Not surely because in the former the instructors are chosen by Governors, nominated by some religious body, and in the latter by Governors appointed by the state. It is probable that the acknowledged inability of many single denominations to compete with the state in the work of endowing and equipping institutions of learning has helped to strengthen the impression that those institutions which are denomina-

tionally supported and controlled, are inferior to those supported and controlled on the other plan. And so they would be if the instruction provided in them were of a poorer quality, and of a more limited range. But we are supposing that it is equal in every respect, and we maintain that there is no reason why it should not be equal, when the same amount of means is possessed to make it such.

Indeed in the United States where the two plans of working institutions are illustrated on a large scale, there are not a few denominational colleges which are regarded by competent judges as quite equal in point of efficiency, to say nothing of other commendable features, to those which are of a purely state character. And it is worthy of remark as showing the drift and tendency of public sentiment, that in that country as a whole, the great majority of students, perhaps ten to one of the other, are in attendance at institutions under denominational control. In fact the majority of the best educationalists of the nation have pronounced in their favor, and recent discussions have shown that the agitations of a few for a national university are destined to end in failure.

On these two points then we beg distinctly and emphatically to say that denominational colleges, properly so called, do *not* turn aside from regular college work to teach religion, nor, with the same means at their command, do they perform regular college work less efficiently than it is performed in State or Provincial institutions.

Now consider these statements in their application respectively to Acadia and Dalhousie. Acadia College is called a denominational institution. We have no objection to the designation. Properly understood it carries no stigma, implies