

or their prompter to come forward face to face. Perhaps concealment was the price of their evidence, but be this as it may, and looking at the facts which have gradually leaked out, we must acknowledge, that for the witnesses to have come publicly forward, would have been rather a nervous and delicate undertaking. Perhaps their instigator was himself deceived by their readiness of assertion, and hoped to frighten the corporation, and induce them to abandon the enquiry. And indeed the Bishop of Huron seems to have felt so very sure of the strength of his evidence before it was produced, as to make it almost impossible to believe that he had ever given it a careful examination. Although the first attempt at investigation has been abortive, yet the matters in question are of too great importance to rest in the darkness in which they are at present involved, and it believes the Bishop of Huron either to withdraw and disavow what he said to his Synod, or to substantiate his charges in the most public manner. And for this purpose it becomes his duty also to request the Metropolitan, as he was inclined to request the Bishop of Rupert's Land, to grant, at his early convenience, a thorough investigation, that the whole matter may be brought to a righteous conclusion.

I have no doubt that the issue will be a full proof that the Bishop of Huron has been deceived by incorrect statements, and indeed his strange and unusual way of collecting the alleged evidence, made him peculiarly liable to deception. It tempted the persons consulted to frame their answers so as to meet the wishes of their employer. Moreover, if discontented, as some evidently were, their replies would be tainted, and take the colour of their feelings, and perhaps be rashly given, as they were under no apprehension of meeting the accused, or of a cross-examination. The whole of the proceedings exhibits one of the most unholiest attempts to destroy the reputation and bring disgrace and ruin on a valuable institution, that is any where recorded. And be it remembered that the Bishop of Huron concentrates in himself all the evidence given, for he is the only witness. And here I would call attention to the Bishop of Huron's letter of the 29th August, 1860. In that letter he tells us, that after his return from England in 1855, some graduates of Trinity College applied to him for ordination, and it became his duty to examine them, and he found their views, more particularly concerning the doctrines of the Church of Rome, not such as he had always entertained. Why should all this be concealed, or if the College is to be condemned on this vague testimony, why not bring forward the persons examined—why not give the Bishop's questions, and their replies? We know that a Bishop is not accountable for the questions he asks of students under examination for Holy Orders, but in this case he deprives himself of such a privilege by making use of this hearsay and secret evidence to condemn Trinity College. Now a regular enquiry would remove every difficulty, and show how far these questions justified the Bishop in pronouncing judgment against Trinity College, and would have brought out the real object of the examination.

But these were not the only or the principal objections to the conference proposed by the Bishop of Huron, through the Rev. Dean Palmer. It was to be secret and therefore irresponsible, and the examinations were to be private. Now we have had already too much secrecy. The Bishop of Huron made no offer to bring forward the graduates who have been his informants, to be confronted with the man whom they had so grievously injured. Nor will he engage to produce and to verify what he claims the documents in his possession. Surely under such conditions and

reservations, no friend of justice could have advised the Provost to submit himself to a tribunal so constituted.

Why did not the Bishop of Huron invite the Provost to come forward with two or three friends to meet the Bishop of Rupert's Land, and then and there produce his witnesses, the graduates, and his other proof? This would have given confidence and dignity to the finding, whatever it might have been. But the most curious feature attending this outrage against Trinity College, is the persistence on the part of the Bishop of Huron, in concealing his sources of information, which cannot fail to cover them with suspicion in every fair and honourable mind. He speaks of several graduates whom he had examined privately, and it would appear, one by one, without any witness but himself, yet he neither brings them publicly forward, nor does he give the questions put to them, nor in any way indicate their precise meaning, but merely insinuates that, in his opinion, they testified against the teaching of Trinity College; but in what way, or to what extent, or on what particular point was the Bishop's secret, and remains so still. Can I be doing injustice in regarding this as miserable trifling? little in accordance with the requirements of truth and justice. I may honestly confess that I have approached this subject with no little mortification. I had considered Trinity College my crowning labour of more than sixty years, a work which conferred honour on all concerned in its erection, and which promised to continue a lasting monument of the zeal of this generation for the glory of God, and the establishment of his worship in its purest form; and notwithstanding the passing of this lowering cloud, I have faith in what has been done, and that the hopes and expectations in which we have indulged will be more than realised. Yet a man in the eighty-fourth year of his age, who thinks that he has done some good in his day, and who feels within himself an approving conscience, may be permitted, in a moment of depression to think that he ought not to be placed in his present position. But it is God's will, and his duty to submit.

In the fifty-eighth year of my ministry I am called upon for the first time to prove my orthodoxy, and innocence of leaning towards Romish doctrines and tenencies. It is true these accusations are brought more immediately against Trinity College, but in making them against that institution, his lordship virtually makes them against me, for of all men living I am the most responsible for its teaching, and the most guilty if it be erroneous. Now the Bishop of Huron was not born, when I was actively discharging the duties of a Missionary in the town of Cornwall, and has therefore lived thus far to make use of his energies to blast my reputation, and the character of my favourite and greatest work, and indeed, were the allegations which the Bishop of Huron has ventured to make against it true, Trinity College deserves no favour; but we feel that they are wholly groundless, and that the Bishop has been egregiously deceived or wilfully reckless. What the motives were which induced him to make this attack on Trinity College, may be conjectured from his animosity against it. Under these circumstances and the nature of the assault on Trinity College, it was intimated to me by many of my brethren, that I, the founder, should no longer delay to come forward in its behalf, and give my thoughts on the subject. To this intimation I had no alternative but to agree, but at the same time I resolved to confine myself as far as possible to a relation of the facts. Bear with me then, my brethren, on this occasion, should I, after the example of the Apostle, boast a little of things which I have actually done, and of which I need not be ashamed.

I begin with remarking that I feel and believe that no work was ever commenced in a purer spirit than the establishment of Trinity College. We had been deprived of the University of King's College, and in faith and with a holy purpose, we sought to build up another seminary to become a nursery for supplying the province with a permanent clergy, and thus to preserve the blessed truth among us through many generations. I may justly say that I spared no labour of body or mind to accomplish my object, and although I could do little as an individual, yet God was with me. All the church people in the province arose to help, like one man, and when it was known in England, that the Bishop of Toronto, at the age of seventy-two, had arrived, to solicit help to replace his College which had been ruthlessly taken from him, by the increasing infidelity of the times, all hearts were opened, and I returned to Canada with means sufficient to enable me to prepare for building in the following spring of 1853. During the succeeding winter an appeal was made with the like success, to our friends in the United States, and God was still with us in all we did, so that within two years of our bereavement of King's College, Trinity College was in full operation, and actively employed in the business of instruction, and it has now continued nine years with signal success, producing annually from eight to ten well instructed young men for the extension of the Church.

The greatest pains had been taken before the commencement of teaching to select men of the most undoubted qualifications as professors and instructors. This duty was deemed of so much importance that it was discharged at our earnest solicitation by four of the most distinguished clergymen in England. Men eminent for their moderation as well as scholarship, and one of them celebrated for his successful controversies with the Church of Rome. Hence the persons chosen came out with the highest testimonials, and now, after many years of diligent labour, have more than confirmed my entire confidence in their learning and faithfulness. I have therefore much pleasure in accepting and fully confirming the declaration of the corporation, that as to the character of the instruction given in the College, I have full confidence, and in the teaching of the Provost, as being in entire conformity with the formalities of the Church, as elucidated by her great writers. I have lived on the most intimate terms with the Provost. I have frequently heard him preach. I have read his printed sermons, and conversed with him on theological subjects, seen and read his able notes on the Articles and the Catechism, and other offices of the Church, and have found him in every respect well armed and prepared for his important office, an honour to the institution, and capable of discharging the highest functions in the most advanced of our divinity schools. I therefore felt as much astonishment as any clergyman in the province, when I heard that Trinity College was denounced as corrupted with Popish tendencies, and were it really so, who (as I have already said) can be so much to blame as the founder? I am, and have been from the first, at the head of the institution, I have ever been familiar with all its operations, and I never found a single trace of Romanism in any one of its proceedings. It is true I did not watch the institution with suspicion or with the view of finding fault, but with the purpose of encouraging and promoting its progress. But my daily intercourse with the Provost and Professors, and Scholars, and my intimate knowledge of the whole of its movements, have brought me to the firm conclusion, on which I am prepared to peril all that is dear to me in body and soul, that Trinity College, as it is now and has ever been