

establishment of the Queen's Colleges in Ireland. So severe a condemnation, by such authority, of an effort made, within a smaller sphere indeed, but against difficulties hardly less formidable, to establish a system of united Education in a community long vexed by religious dissensions, implies, it may be presumed, on the part of the subscribers, a very profound conviction, that the means adopted for compassing the end in view were in their nature immoral.

4. The accuracy of the parallel, which the Bishop endeavors to establish, between the course which the Canadian Legislature has pursued with reference to King's College and a supposed confiscation of the Revenues of Trinity College, Dublin, for the benefit of the Queen's Colleges in Ireland, will probably be best tested by a brief review of the history of the former Institution. The history is unquestionably, in many of its parts, a sad one. It is a lamentable fact, that for a series of years, the interests of Education in its higher branches in Upper Canada should have been sacrificed to the exigencies of a bitter sectarian warfare. I much doubt, however, whether impartial persons, with the circumstances of the case fully before them, will be disposed to place the whole blame upon the Provincial Government and Parliament.

5. The first movement made towards the establishment of an University in Upper Canada, was in 1797, when the Legislative Council and Assembly concurred in an Address to the King, "imploing that His Majesty would be graciously pleased to direct His Government in this Province to appropriate a certain portion of the Waste Lands of the Crown, as a Fund for the establishment of a respectable Grammar School in each District and support of a College or University for the instruction of the youth in the different branches of liberal knowledge." A favorable answer was returned to this address, intimating that it was "His Majesty's most gracious intention to comply with the wishes of the Legislature of His Province of Upper Canada," and accordingly a large appropriation of vacant Land was shortly afterwards made for the purpose of the endowment. In the year 1807, District Schools were established by the Legislature, for the support of which a Special Grant was made, as the Lands so set apart had not yet become productive. It is to be observed, however, that, true to the intention of the Address and Endowment, these Schools were altogether unsectarian in their Constitution. No practical step appears to have been taken for carrying out that part of the Address which had reference to an University, until the year 1827, when Dr. Strachan, Archdeacon of York, being in England, obtained from Lord Bathurst a Royal Charter, establishing the University of King's College.

6. The University constituted by this Charter was essentially a Church of England Institution. The Bishop was to be Visitor, the Archdeacon of York, President, and each Member of the College Council, seven of whom were to be eventually Professors, was