

The gift is large and liberal, and the thanks of the Church are due to Mr. McLeod for such a handsome commencement for an Endowment Fund. He has led the way nobly, and we trust the example will be followed by other wealthy men throughout the Church, and that, in a few years, both Knox College and our College in Montreal will be amply endowed. Our Church could then throw herself with undivided energy into the great work of Home and Foreign Missions. By taking a noble part in cultivating and watering the distant moral wastes of heathenism, we ourselves would be watered with rich showers of blessings.

We live in stirring and eventful times. God's arm is very manifestly stretched out in the Providential occurrences now taking place among the nations, and He is pleading the cause that is His own. The two gigantic systems of error, that have so long presented a frowning front to the Kingdom of Christ, are now tottering, preparatory apparently to a simultaneous fall, whose echoes shall be drowned by the universal shout of a triumphant Christianity—Halleluia: for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth. May an increased zeal, an enlarged liberality, and a holy ambition to serve and honour in these eventful times her Lord and Saviour, more and more characterize the Canada Presbyterian Church!

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#### PUBLIC GRANTS TO DENOMINATIONAL COLLEGES.

We observe that the subject of grants of public money to denominational Colleges is beginning to attract public attention. It will soon be before the Legislature of Ontario. Already the governing bodies of the institutions, which have hitherto enjoyed public aid, are bestirring themselves, and seeking to bring influence to bear on the members of the Legislature. The question is a very important one. It is one intimately connected with the peace and harmony of the various religious denominations of the Province, and one which involves very important principles. Hitherto the circumstances of the country and the complications arising from the relative position occupied by the French Canadians under the old regime, have rendered it difficult to deal fairly with this question. But now the altered circumstances of the country afford a favourable opportunity for the Legislature to begin anew, and pursue a policy more in accordance with the relation,—or no relation,—subsisting between the Government of the country and the various religious denominations, and more in accordance with the views, as we believe, of the great body of the people.

We by no means desire to undervalue the services of such institutions as Queen's College and Victoria College. We are aware that not a few of our professional men, and others in various parts of the country, have been educated at these institutions. But it cannot be denied that the institutions in question were originated for the special interest of the respective denominations, and that they are controlled and governed by them, and that grants of public money for the benefit of these colleges must be regarded as virtually grants of money to the denominations themselves.

We see very many objections to such grants. From the continuance of them multiplied evils must inevitably result. The principle once admitted, there may be an indefinite increase of these denominational grants. If one application is admitted, it will be difficult to refuse another. No doubt applications will be made for aid to Popish Colleges in many parts of the country, and these cannot be set aside. Besides, if the system be adopted by Government, it will by no means tend to promote that purity and freedom from corrupting influences which we should like to see characterizing both the government and the constituencies of the country. The power