

misapprehension, and as it is a misapprehension which might in various ways prove injurious to the Institution, I think it desirable, at the risk of stating what must be familiar to many, to enter into somewhat larger explanation on this point than might otherwise be necessary. The misapprehension arises in some, from mistaken views of the proper office of a College or University; and in others, from imperfect information as to the course of education prescribed by the Church of Scotland for those who are candidates for the ministry.

The only notion which some people have of a College is, that it is a school for the education of young men intended for the learned professions,—and that the object of attending it is to be prepared for the active and intelligent and successful discharge of the duties of a Physician, a Lawyer, or a Divine. While others, altogether excluding professional from University education, consider it the sole and proper work of a College to give that general education which should precede the studies of any peculiar profession—by which the mind is trained and disciplined for such studies, or for a better enjoyment of life, and a nobler discharge of its duties, if circumstances render such studies unnecessary. The latter view, if a choice is to be made, undoubtedly the sounder and more correct of the two, is that, which is to be found in the legislation of this Province, the only Provincial University being established, on the principle of excluding from its course of instruction the pre-eminently important sciences of Law, Medicine and Divinity. But neither view need be accepted as just. It was the