

2. QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY.

In the course of his address at the opening of the present session of Queen's College, in the Convocation Hall, Wednesday afternoon, Principal Snodgrass spoke as follows:—The second Conference of Committees of the Supreme Courts of the Presbyterian Churches, negotiating for Union, commenced its sittings in Montreal on the afternoon of Tuesday, the 26th ult., and brought them to a close on the evening of Monday last. The matter of Collegiate Institutions formed a prominent subject of discussion and arrangement. On the evening of Friday, there was passed a resolution, founded upon the deliverances of the General Assembly of the Canada Presbyterian Church, and of the Synod of the Church in connection with the Church of Scotland, and providing generally that the Institutions of the negotiating Churches should stand to the proposed United Church in relations like to those which they have hitherto held to the several Churches with which they are connected. Upon a motion for reconsideration, the subject was again taken up on Monday morning, and occupied the attention of the Conference until the close of its sittings. Proposals were submitted, which, after consideration and amendment, came to be of this effect:—That Queen's University at Kingston, with the same relations to the United Church as it now stands in to the Church with which it is connected, should have affiliated to it, for the conferring of Degrees in Divinity, and for the preparatory training of students for the Ministry, the two Theological Colleges at present situated in Halifax and Toronto, and also the Theological College at Montreal, with the Theological Departments of Queen's and Morrin Colleges united to it; that tutorial work in relation to literary and scientific studies should not be carried on in connection with the Theological Institutions of the United Church, but that provision should be made by the United Church for this kind of work in connection with Queen's College, Kingston, and Morrin College, Quebec, and it is recommended that, inasmuch as the Canada Presbyterian Church has resolved to endow their Theological Colleges at Toronto and Montreal, the Church in connection with the Church of Scotland shall fully endow the Arts Faculty in Queen's College. It was further proposed that the present Principal of Morrin College should be invited to become the Principal of the Theological College at Montreal, and that failing to obtain a Professor from Queen's College, the Church in connection with the Church of Scotland shall nominate a Theological Professor for that College. The formation of opinions with respect to this scheme will depend very much upon the particular point of view from which it is regarded, upon the bearing which it is seen to have on the various interests affected by it, and upon the extent to which permanency and utility are associated with the scheme considered as a whole and with the several parts of which it consists. The final acceptance or rejection of it rests with the authorities of the several Colleges referred to, and with the Supreme Court of the Churches with which they are connected. It is expected that by the end of the next month the decisions of these bodies shall be arrived at and made known. I have deemed it my duty to take the earliest public opportunity to make this statement. And, in concluding, I think it right to say that I have declined to commit myself to it until I am satisfied of the practicability of carrying out the recommendation which has been made by obtaining a much larger endowment and fuller equipment of this Institution than it has at present, and also of its noninterference with the honourable fulfilment of pledges given and responsibilities assumed in connection with the scheme for endowment which was begun in January, 1869, and which has been attended with such gratifying success.—*Kingston Chronicle*.

3. CANADIAN LITERARY INSTITUTE.

The report of the Trustees was of the most cheering character, and the Treasurer's report shewed a most favourable state of affairs. The following is the balance sheet:

<i>Receipts for the year.</i>	
From Board and Tuition.....	\$11,707 61
From Ministerial Education aid.....	2,808 97
From Subscriptions for Debt.....	287 00
From Subscriptions for Entertainment....	1,581 00
Total.....	\$16,385 08
<i>Expenditure.</i>	
Paid for General Account.....	\$14,436 99
Paid Municipal Aid.....	470 00
Paid Enlargement Account.....	1,099 32
Balance on hand.....	378 77
Total.....	\$16,385 08

The report of the Trustees is worthy of more than a passing notice. It is now pretty well known the funds obtained for the erection of the building, and a great portion of the current expenses of the school, are by voluntary contributions. Nearly \$80,000 have been given by the denomination the last twelve years for buildings, furnishings, grounds and ministerial aid. The first building was destroyed by fire in 1861, but a simultaneous effort was made, and a more costly structure erected on its ruins. Two years ago the denomination was asked for \$7,000 for removing a debt and enlarging the accommodation. The money was subscribed and the work done. Now the same cry comes to the trustees—"Give us more room"—and they have no alternative but to make another appeal. This time it is to be on a more permanent basis and more extensive plants. The Hon. W. McMaster, and F. J. Claxton, Esq., with their usual liberality, offered to give \$6,000 for the purchase of the farm surrounding the Institute, provided the denomination pledge the sum of \$12,000 for the enlargement of the buildings. On the strength of this liberal offer the trustees purchased the farm, and took immediate steps to secure pledges to the amount named. Dr. Fyfe, who has had the principal part of the work to do, reported that about \$9,000 had been pledged, and that he had no doubt about the balance being found. The plans are not yet adopted for the changes required.—*Woodstock Times*.

4. EDUCATION IN NEW BRUNSWICK.

The report of the Chief Superintendent of Schools, for the year 1870, contains much useful information in reference to the common, superior and grammar schools of the Province of New Brunswick, and shows the incongruity and unshapeliness of the present wretched system better than could be done by argument. We learn from it of whole counties in which the pre-Adamite system of "boarding round" is still so general that many of the schools have to be closed in the winter on account of the scarcity of male teachers and the inability of female teachers to endure the hardship involved by the practice. It reminds us of the wretched, ill-ventilated rooms in which children are huddled together in this city and other populous places, because the teachers are obliged to furnish the rooms, and their income will not permit them to rent suitable buildings. It tells of the districts where ignorance has so long reigned that the people are averse to any enlightenment that will cost them a dollar or require the time of their children. In cities where "seminaries" are held in the family dining-rooms, and in country districts where children are regarded as nothing more than potato droppers and wood choppers, the educational status of the poor is daily becoming more lamentable. We are happy to learn from the report of the commendable progress of some portions of the Province, of the new school-houses that have been erected, of the successful competitive examinations that have been held during the year, and the successful operations of the Provincial Training School. This is all very well, but we find that all the progress that was made was in the most intelligent districts where progress is least required, and there is nothing in the report to show that the darkness that envelopes so many districts has been illuminated by a single ray of light.

The Chief Superintendent complains of "the constant withdrawal of teachers from school service." He may lament the fact, but he is certainly an unreasonable being to complain that it exists. The youth who teaches one term and then is forced to go all over the village collecting his pay, taking homespun for a pair of trousers from one, half a dozen pairs of socks from another—fair promises from one easy-going impecunious father of a family, and abuse from another on account of having punished his children—after enduring all this he buys a buck-saw and goes to work to earn his living independently; and a man of the intelligence of Dr. Bennet has the effrontery to complain of him for not teaching longer.

We learn from the report that the sum total of subscriptions, tuition fees, assessments, lands, donations and board for the year is \$115,578 51.

"Only this and nothing more." About forty cents a head contributed by the generous people of New Brunswick towards the education of their children. The Provincial expenditure for school purposes was \$88,390 50. This brings the whole expenditure for schools to the enormous amount of nearly seventy cents a head. Even this amount, if properly expended in graded schools, would do twice as much as is done by it at present. One hopeful sign of the times is that the superintendent has really awoke to the conviction that Lennie's grammar is not just what a grammar for our schools should be. This is progress. But it is all nonsense to endeavor to establish authorized text books or improved school apparatus of any kind so long as the present system is in vogue. The efforts of the superintendent and his inspectors have been in