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THE FEDERATION OF TRINITY UNIVERSITY

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The events which led to the disintegration of university education in Ontario belong chiefly to the second quarter of the past century, and may be assumed as familiar to the readers of this journal. It was in 1850 that Bishop Strachan undertook to build and endow Trinity University as a protest against the Baldwin Act of 1849, which had completely secularized the provincial university. Two years later teaching was begun, and a charter was obtained in 1853.

In the midst of the controversies of those stirring times the idea of university consolidation was not wholly abandoned. Both the Act of 1849 and that of 1853 were framed with a view to such consolidation, the one with, and the other without, the abandonment of degree-conferring powers by the outstanding colleges; but he would have been a bold optimist indeed who, in view of the sentiments then prevailing, could have hoped for a united provincial university. What was then little better than the dream of enlightened statesmen has been largely realized through the federation of Victoria and Trinity Universities under the Act of 1887.

Such a radical change as is implied in the federation of Trinity cannot be effected by the mere stroke of a pen. To state the bare fact that provision was made for this federation by the amended University Act of 1901, and that the Act was put into operation by an Order-in-Council bearing the date of 17th of Nov., 1903, is to give no idea of the gradual change of sentiment in the Anglican Church regarding this matter, of the prolonged discussions, of the delicate negotiations and mutual compromises which made the legal enactments possible. The actual negotiations as between the University of Toronto and Trinity University were carried on throughout the year 1902 by the following committees: Uni-

versity of Toronto: Chancellor Meredith, Vice-Chancellor Moss, President Loudon, Principal Hutton, Dr. Hoskin, Dr. Walker, Mr. C. S. Gzowski; Trinity University: Chancellor Robinson, Provost Macklem, Dr. Worrell, Col. Pellatt and Messrs. Edward Martin and Frederick Nicholls. These names are mentioned in order that credit may be given where credit is due for the happy outcome. Where all were actuated by so earnest a desire to attain a practical and equitable result, it is almost invidious to make distinctions, yet perhaps separate mention should be made of Provost Macklem of Trinity, Chancellor Meredith and Vice-Chancellor Moss of the Univer-

sity of Toronto, as well as Dr. Hoskin, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and Mr. B. F. Walker, the two latter especially for their assistance in working out the financial basis of the scheme. It is but right to add that the negotiations were greatly facilitated by the sympathetic attitude of the Premier and the Minister of Education. Mention should also be made of the very liberal spirit in which the teaching staff, especially in medicine, agreed to combine their forces, in many cases to the prejudice of personal interest as regards the necessary modifications in academic rank and in financial arrangements.

This federation which has been so happily brought about comes into full operation with the present academic

year in the Faculty of Arts. In Medicine the amalgamation of the faculties took place a year ago, and the labors of the combined Faculty have been attended with most gratifying results.

It is needless to say that the federation of Trinity has greatly strengthened the Provincial University on the academic side. The calendar of the University for 1904-5 puts the matter in concrete form, and shows at a glance what the new departure means in this respect. In Arts the University possesses at present a teaching staff of upwards of sixty members, whilst the combined staff of University, Victoria and Trinity Colleges for the teaching of the languages and other

