

# THE U. C. COLLEGE QUESTION.

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*A Statement compiled by order of the  
Ontario Grammar School Masters' Association.*

1868.

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## I. THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL RESERVES.

In order to understand the present anomalous position of U. C. College in our Educational System, it will be advisable briefly to revert to the early history of our Colony, and to commence with the first endowment for educational purposes, which is described on the Records of our Legislature as the "Grammar School Reserves."

### EARLIEST PROCEEDINGS RELATIVE TO THE GRAMMAR SCHOOLS.

On Nov. 4th, 1797, the Duke of Portland addressed a Despatch (1) to Mr. President Russell in reply to a joint Address of both Houses of Parliament. The Colonial Legislature had urged on the Imperial Government the necessity of establishing Grammar Schools throughout U. Canada.—In his Despatch the Secretary of State for the Colonies proceeds to say that His Majesty [Geo. III.] has been pleased to authorize the appropriation of a portion of the waste lands of the Crown (2) for the purpose in—

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1 This Despatch will be found in extenso in the Journals of the House of Assembly, 1831, App. p. 104. The more important passages will be found in a most interesting and a well-known work entitled "Eighty Years of Progress of B. N. America." The tract on our Educational Progress, to which we here particularly refer, and which is from the pen of the Deputy Superintendent of Education, contains much rare and valuable information regarding our early progress in letters.

2 It was customary, in terms of St Geo. III § 34, in surveying Townships to set aside first, a seventh of the land as Crown Reserves; then another seventh as Clergy Reserves; the residue of each Township was described as "Waste Lands of the Crown."