

UNIVERSITY QUESTION.

Dr. Ryerson's Reply to a Recent Pamphlet of Mr. Langton
and Dr. Wilson.

TO THE HON. M. CAMERON, M. L. C.,

&c., &c., &c.

LETTER I.

(Petitions and Parliamentary Investigations on the University Question.)

Sir,—To you, as an old friend of Victoria College, and an avowed advocate of the views of the Wesleyan Body on the University Question, was confided last year for presentation to the Legislative Assembly the memorial of the Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Canada in behalf of Victoria College, and in favour of a national University on a national basis. On your motion, that Memorial, with various others on the same subject, was referred to a Select Committee, of which you were Chairman. That Memorial alleged, that the national objects of the University Act of 1853 had been departed from in the nature and prodigality of expenditures, and in lowering instead of keeping up the standard of University education as prescribed by the Statute. That these allegations were proved to a demonstration, I believe neither you nor any other persons who witnessed the investigation, or have read the Minutes of it, have ever for a moment doubted, whether they agreed in the theory or prayer of the Petitioners or not.

(Effect of the Investigation at Quebec.)

The Committee, by the close of the Session, ceased to exist without reporting; but the convictions produced by the investigation in the minds of the members of the Legislature were amply attested by the fact, that the Parliamentary grants to the two Colleges of the Petitioners, which had never before passed the Legislative Assembly without some debates and divisions, were not only continued, but increased £500 to each College, and passed without division or objection—a proceeding unprecedented of its kind in Canada, and illustrative of the irresistible power of the truth, justice and patriotism involved in the Christian principles and national views of the Petitioners when brought into contact with the minds of intelligent men of all parties. And the effect has been and will be the same wherever the same principles and views are brought into contact with enlightened Christian minds.