

8. Finally, our system is the most favorable to the moral and religious interest of students, and therefore of the country. We believe there is scarcely a parent in Canada who would not far rather send his son to a denominational College not of his own religious persuasion, where that son would be under truly religious care and instruction, than to send such a son to a non-denominational college where "no man cares for his soul," and he is left in the midst of temptation without the shield of parental oversight or the counsels of pastoral instruction, and whence he perhaps returns home after years of absence, with a more cultivated mind, but with a vitiated heart and ruined principles. In the words of the Conference Memorial, "experience shows that, while pastoral and parental care can be exercised for the religious instruction of children residing at home and attending a day school, that care cannot be exercised over youth residing away from home and pursuing their higher education except in a college where the pastoral and parental care can be daily combined. We hold that the highest interests of the country, as of an individual, are its religious and moral interests; and we believe there can be no heavier blow dealt out against those religious and moral interests than for a youth of a country destined to receive the best literary education, to be placed, during the most eventful years of that educational course, without the pale of daily parental and pastoral instruction and oversight. The results of such a system must, sooner or later, sap the religious and moral foundations of society. For such is the tendency of our nature, that with all the appliances of religious instruction and ceaseless care by the parent and pastor, they are not always successful in counteracting evil propensities and temptations; and therefore from a system which involves a withdrawal and absence of all such influences for years at a period when youthful passions are strongest and youthful temptations most powerful, we cannot but entertain painful apprehensions. Many a parent would deem it his duty to leave his son without the advantages of a liberal education, rather than thus expose him to the danger of moral shipwreck in its requirement."

We have now to reply to several objections; and while replying to these, we shall offer additional reasons for denominational colleges, and in behalf of Victoria College in particular.

1. It is objected that our system is "sectarian,"—that is, denominational. This is the staple cry, and almost sole argument against our system. Yet it does merit the name of argument, and involves such glaring absurdities that we have been surprised how any Christian man could employ it without self-condemnation and shame. It implies that denominationalism is a calamity to be lamented, and that denominational instruction is an evil to be de-

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