

stand aloof and hand over the endowments of the university to other churches which have no better claim to them than the Methodists. It observes that there is good ground to believe that the Ontario government is disposed to go as far in formulating a plan that would be acceptable to the Church Colleges as the public sentiment of the country will warrant. It asks, "Are our people generally willing to hand over our State University to Presbyterians, Baptists and others, as if they had rights to its advantages that Methodists have not? Can there be any reasonable doubt that by bringing Victoria College into closer relations to our Provincial University we would widen the sphere of our Church influence, and increase the spirit of inter-denominational unity, which now happily prevails?"

Every friend of higher education must sympathise strongly with this common sense view of the situation. The plan is perfectly feasible, and deserves the most careful and friendly consideration on all hands. University College, whatever may be its shortcomings of whatever its achievements, is not the University of Toronto. The University is wide enough to include a cluster of colleges, each having its own internal government and working on its own special lines, just as the Dominion can embrace a score of provinces. A loving and catholic spirit is all that is necessary to ensure the successful arrangement of mere matters of detail. If Victoria College is removed to Toronto and placed in close connection with Toronto University it will immediately assume a leading place and wield a power before unknown. It will be able to maintain the finest theological department in the province, and will receive endowments and equipment which will astonish its warmest friend. We speak guardedly in saying that the Methodist Church has not yet put forth half its real energy in this matter, surprising as its efforts have already proved to outsiders. On the other hand, the University gains in geometric proportion with every additional college added to the circle. Let no one mar this wooing by bigotry and prejudice. It is in accordance with reason that the wedding should take place.

#### WOMEN AT THE UNIVERSITIES.

We regard it as a most hopeful sign of the times that young women in annually increasing numbers are availing themselves of the facilities afforded in this province for obtaining a University training. The Commencement of the University of Toronto was marked this year by the extraordinary occurrence of a young girl, Miss Eliza Balmer, of Toronto, taking a double scholarship in the second year of the curriculum, and by the appearance of the names of several others high in the honor roll of the third year. Most prominent amongst these now fourth year undergraduates are the two Misses Brown, daughters of the late Hon. George Brown, and Miss Bald, of Welland, all of whom will probably take this year, along with several others, the degree of B.A. The Senate of the University has for several years past done itself honor by admitting women to its examinations and class lists, but unfortunately women have not as yet

been allowed to attend lectures in University College, and whatever distinction they have been able to gain has been won in spite of this unfair disadvantage. Last session the Provincial Legislature which has the most complete control over the institution, passed a resolution asking the College Council to admit women to lectures. It is hardly conceivable that the latter body, the members of which are simply public servants, will venture to ignore the request, but if they do so much the worse for themselves and the College. The female undergraduates must be allowed to attend lectures provided for them at the public expense, and there is no reason why they should be called upon to suffer injustice for even another session.

#### THE PLACE OF THE UNIVERSITY IN THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM.

With the election of Principal Miller, the High Schools will begin to be represented on the senate of the provincial university. Hitherto they have been represented in name but not in reality, for their nominal representative has done absolutely nothing towards getting the university placed in thorough harmony with the secondary schools of the country. We are not aware of a single measure proposed or advocated by Mr. MacMurchy. We have never been able to learn that he has done more than attend the meetings very regularly and very regularly vote with the ultra do-nothing party. The medieval policy of Mr. MacMurchy towards the girls of his own school, which the government Report points out, renders it wholly improbable that such a representative could identify himself with liberal and progressive measures, and the high school influence has simply been lost.

The advent of Mr. Miller, a man of a different type, will, we hope, do much towards bringing the university into accord with the high schools and making the relation between her and them as close and as complete as that now existing between them and the primary schools. Until this is done the university will not wield the power in our system which is hers by right.

There were this year over 200 candidates for junior matriculation, and it is not rash to predict that the number will be trebled before 1890 if the senate is only true to the real interests of education. The high school masters must elect four representatives instead of two, and the high school inspectors must be placed on the senate. For surely, if Upper Canada College with 225 students, many of whom could not pass the entrance examination, is entitled to one representative, then the 104 high schools with about 13,000 students might be allowed six. The government also might as well appoint a few members not a generation behind the times on educational affairs. Liberal measures will soon follow, and we shall see secondary and higher education thoroughly welded together in one harmonious system.