

Parliament for protection from litigation threatened on the ground that the legislation obtained at the time of the union was *ultra vires* of a Provincial Legislature, the Board went on this occasion direct to Parliament, and though the question of jurisdiction was debated, the Act was passed. Instead of abrogating the test referred to, the new Act declares that professors shall sign such formula as the Board of Trustees may prescribe."

Remember that this Act was well known; and that, as we study to make our reports brief, we particularly alluded only to the change that had been made as to the formula to be signed by the professors, because in that matter we had made an addition to the proposal in our report of 1885. In that we proved ourselves to be more zealous for orthodoxy than the Assembly had shown itself to be. This report of 1889 was presented by Professor Ross, and the deliverance on it, moved by Dr. Thompson, of Sarnia, and seconded by Dr. Laidlaw, reads as follows: "That the Assembly receive the report of Queen's College . . . approve of the legislation secured," etc. The deliverance was adopted unanimously.

I would now ask the Assembly or any member of it to indicate what step that should have been taken was omitted. Besides, every year since, the Council has publicly elected its representative. Great interest is taken in the election. A biographical sketch of the gentleman elected is given in the newspapers. Yet in 1892 an elder of the Church accuses us of having concealed from the Church what was and is proclaimed from the housetops!

I might rest here and leave the matter to your judgment, but it may be well to discuss the Act of 1889 on its merits, even at this late day.

Our Church is Canadian and historical; it must adapt its institutions to the needs of Canada; and it must preserve the best traditions and the loftiest spirit of all the Churches that compose its grand unity. We remembered this in seeking for the new legislation. Our aim was to strengthen the University as a seat of learning, always keeping in view the object for which it was established, that it should be religious and not merely secular in tone. What is the historical position of our Church? It is national rather than sectarian, and it has therefore always sought the fullest and freest educational development. The Church in Canada has been true to that ideal. The origin of Queen's is a proof of this. Though our people in Ontario sixty years ago were in deep poverty, they resolved to establish a University on the model of Edinburgh, because the only university then in Ontario was sectarian. They made the basis of this University as wide as it possibly could then be, by making every member of the Church a corporator. It was thus, as much as possible, a people's University to begin with. There were no graduates, and it would be long before there would be graduates enough to entitle them to a share in the management; but, as Dr. Machar said at the first public meeting held fifty-three years ago: