

commands, when the matter was taken up by the Provincial Legislature, in the Session of 1797. This body presented a memorial to General Simcoe, most humbly imploring His Majesty that he would be graciously pleased to direct His Government of this Province to appropriate a certain portion of the waste lands of the Crown, as a fund for the establishment and support of a respectable Grammar-school in each District thereof, and also, a Collège or University, for the instruction of youth in the different branches of liberal knowledge.

A prompt notice was taken of this representation ; for, in November, 1797, his Grace the Duke of Portland, then one of the principal Secretaries of State, mentions His Majesty's readiness to show His parental regard for the welfare of His subjects, in the furtherance of so important an object as the instruction of youth, and to assist and encourage the exertions of His Province, in promoting sound learning, and a religious education. "His Grace informs the Legislature, that His Majesty has condescended to express His gracious intention to comply with the wishes of the Legislature of Upper Canada, by the establishment of free Grammar-schools in those Districts in which they are called for, and, in due process of time, other Seminaries, of a larger and more comprehensive nature, for the promotion of religious and moral learning." In order to carry the Royal intentions most beneficially into effect, a detailed report of the best method of promoting the general education of the youth of the Province, was called for from the Members of the Executive Council, the Judges of the King's Bench, and Law Officers of the Crown.

These gentlemen drew up a most able and elaborate report on this interesting subject, summing up the whole in ten important resolutions, among which, they represent the propriety of erecting four Grammar-schools, at an expence of £3000 each, and an annual sum of £180 for the salaries of the Master, Under-master, and repairs; and likewise, a University to be established on a most liberal footing at York, the seat of Government, as soon as the circumstances of the Province require it; for all which, a large appropriation of the waste lands of the Crown was humbly recommended.

Owing to the small value of land when this appropriation was made, and the trifling sum paid for the Township of Norwich, it was found that the money required