

"The Rector has a casting vote in the Council; in his absence the Assistant Superior of the *Séminaire* is to preside and has the same privilege.

"The University shall have, possess and enjoy all such and the like privileges as are now enjoyed by the Universities of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland so far as the same are capable of being had, possessed or enjoyed, under and by virtue of this Royal Charter, and the said University Council shall have power and liberty to grant and confer on all students whether they be or be not students in the said Seminary or University or in any other College or Seminary within the said Province which shall be affiliated to and connected with the said University who shall be found duly qualified according to the statutes, rules and ordinances to receive the same, the degrees of Bachelor, Master and Doctor in the several Arts and Faculties."

"No religious test or qualification shall be required of, or appointed for any person to be admitted or matriculated as students; provided nevertheless that all persons admitted to any degree in any Art or Faculty shall make such declarations and subscriptions as by the statutes, rules and ordinances shall be fixed and appointed.

"The powers and privileges granted by the said Charter shall not in the exercise of them by the said University Council in any manner or way interfere with, diminish or otherwise affect the powers, rights and privileges of the said "*Séminaire de Québec*" as now enjoyed and exercised by the Superior and Directors of the said Seminary but all and every the said rights, powers, authorities and privileges of the said Corporation of "*le Séminaire de Québec*" shall in the administration of the affairs of the said "*Séminaire de Québec*" remain the same as heretofore."

Immediately after the granting of that charter the Archbishop of Quebec by a Pastoral Letter or *Mandement* called the attention of his flock to the great boon which was offered to them by the establishment of a University and the full completion of the noble projects of the first Bishop of Quebec. The following extract from that able document has a bearing on the whole subject of education in Lower-Canada and will prove interesting to our readers.

"We are sure, says His Grace, that much has been said in disparagement of our clerical and collegiate institutions and of the effects they are making for the promotion of classical education. If we were to believe many a censor, the time spent in the study of the dead languages, should be rated as time altogether lost, and it would be far preferable to apply one's mind exclusively to the elementary acquirements necessary for the pursuits of trade, arts and agriculture; literature in their opinion would be capable of exercising but a baneful influence over society and there should be no room left for the cultivation of letters, in our days of great commercial bustle and activity. Following up these premises, they insist on our collegiate institutions, modifying their course of studies so as to set aside the teaching of the ancient languages, to give to the pupils an education of a less extensive character but of more easy access, and of a greater practical utility.

"This utilitarian theory, trumpeted by men who will judge of things in a purely physical point of view only, who will look on the human mind in no other shape but that of any other commodity, to be valued by its price in the market, is nothing new after all; it is an old doctrine more than once baffled by experience. It is the same doctrine that prompted one of the lieutenants of the califs to burn down the precious library of Alexandria, it is the same doctrine that caused the Goths and the Vandals to destroy as they went on, the vestiges of the language, the literature and the genius of the Romans. In the opinion of those warfaring tribes, thinking of nothing but havoc and plunder, the poet, the orator, the philosopher could not but unnerve the mind of a nation. Time has overruled these barbarous ideas. Egypt, the most important part of Africa, Asia minor, countries once so highly civilized, have fallen, through their neglect of literature and art into the most abject degradation, while the very savages who invaded Europe from the North and the West, yielding after their first furious efforts to the wholesome and captivating influence of science and of literature, have equalled the most refined nations of antiquity, and have even surpassed them by their industry and general progress.

"We admit that colleges ought not to become too numerous, in order that they should be maintained in a condition sufficiently prosperous to secure all the advantages to be derived from institutions of that nature. But, undoubtedly, two collegiate institutions are not more than necessary to meet the wants of this extensive diocese.

"We are also convinced that all young men are not indiscriminately to be considered qualified for a classical course of education, and that for many of them, such a training would be unprofitable, or even dangerous. Therefore, far from advising parents in general, to send their children to college, when they have not the required qualifications, we would point out to them a very different course. There are already in our educational institutions, far too many young men, who should have contented themselves with the education given in a good elementary school, in order to return to the occupations of their fathers. These students, destitute of ability, occasion their families useless expense, lose at college much of their most precious time, and besides, retard the progress of their classmates; and this is but one part of the evil, for after spending at college many unprofitable years, they lose all taste, from fruitless toil, and abandon their studies, often drawing away with them, students gifted with superior talents. Both the untalented and the gifted, considering themselves as above, and entitled to despise agriculture and all other sorts of manual labor, embrace one of the learned professions, place themselves behind a counter, or besiege the public offices, to obtain some meagre situation; it is to this cause we must attribute the overloading of all the liberal professions, and the frightful displacement of a crowd of young men, who abandon the humble but useful vocations of their fathers, to become a burden to society, in a position which they often disgrace.

"To avoid such deplorable results, the ordinary rules of prudence will suffice. Before sending their children to