

“ONE University for the Province” was the cry raised by advocates of University Confederation. It looks as if the very first step towards the fondly desired goal was going to give us a crop of Universities of a peculiar kind. The Baptists were the most ardent advocates of Confederation, and they are now applying for a charter for a McMaster University, to consist of McMaster Divinity Hall, and the Woodstock institution, both of them already affiliated to Toronto University. But this is nothing to a new proposal that has been sprung. The Toronto School of Medicine, which is affiliated to Victoria and Toronto Universities, has tacked on to a Bill for giving it power to hold land, a modest clause constituting it a University *quoad* Medical Degrees. This is decidedly rich. If the Legislature passes the Bill as it stands, every Medical School in the country will have to get a similar charter, and then a Medical School will be started in every city, and we shall have Universities *quoad hoc* by the score, and Canadian Medical Degrees, which have hitherto ranked so much higher than those of the States, will sink even lower. A Dutch auction for cheapening degrees will be instituted and the bidding will be lively.

IT is well for Mr. Grant Allen that he is at present safely beyond the seas and not within reach of Kingston's citizens; for at the present time many an otherwise mild Kingstonian is breathing out terrible threatenings against him. In fact he is “wanted” in this vicinity to make explanation as regards some very hard sayings to which he has lately given expression. In these he has blackened the name and blasted the fair reputation of Kingston and the whole country for miles around. He has reduced our goodly city, the oldest in the province, to the status of a common town, and has then given it over, in his own words, “to a vast

orgie, a saturnalia of unobstructed and undeterred drunkenness,” occurring, he says, every day or two. Just imagine the feelings of a respectable Briton as his imagination endeavours, under Mr. Allen's instruction, to grasp the following picture: “On Orange-men's day, and at other great gala seasons, the entire male population of the county seemed to reel about the streets *en bloc* in a high state of vinous exhilaration.” We have sometimes read of savage tribes in the centre of Africa and elsewhere thus giving themselves up to a unanimous carouse, and we have shuddered at the conception of such total degradation and considered seriously for a time the question of contributing to foreign missions. Now, however, we feel very sorry for all this, and would desire to beg these very respectable people's pardon for the opinion we have hitherto entertained of them, for doubtless they have been vilely misrepresented, and we extend them our sympathies.

And yet it seems marvellous that Mr. Allen should so grossly misrepresent a place which he ought to know so well. To our mind it shows very forcibly to what a deplorable condition of disregard for fact some of these pseudo-scientific theorists can come. For them theory seems everything, fact nothing. Mr. Allen appears to have become so accustomed to make fact square with theory, rather than theory with fact, that in order to support a little theory concerning the operation of the Scott Act, he very placidly, and we have no doubt without any particular malice towards Kingston, fabricates the necessary data, recognizing no limits but the necessities of his theory. However, we would suggest to Mr. Allen, or any one of similar tendencies, that it is one thing to create data of a biological or psychological character where the subject matter is more or less impersonal, but quite a different matter to take such pleasant liberties as