

Appendix
(D. D.)

7th May.

commanded by His Excellency the Administrator of the Government to state to me his desire to be furnished in a definite and official form with the views of the Governing Body of the College of Regiopolis on the present state of the Charter of the University of King's College as amended by the Statute of Upper Canada, 7th William IV, chapter 16; and I take this opportunity of transmitting to you for and in behalf of the Corporation of the College of Regiopolis their views upon the subject, for the information of His Excellency.

The Corporation of the College of Regiopolis are averse, as a general rule, to any tampering or interference with private rights, and had the University of King's College been endowed with private instead of public property they would feel themselves bound both in honor and justice to make every exertion to manifest publicly their disapprobation of any step taken by the Legislature to interfere with the same; and even as matters stand at the present, and however much they individually disapprove of the manner in which, what they consider public property, and should have therefore been applied for the advantages of all the members of the community without reference to sect or denomination of Christians, has been misapplied, yet, as a body, they were determined not to have expressed any opinion upon the subject, and such would have been their conduct, had not His Excellency called upon them for an expression of their opinion upon the same.

However much the Members of the Corporation of the College of Regiopolis feel interested in the prosperity of the establishment with which they are connected, and however much they see the necessity of its being endowed by some permanent grant from the Provincial Legislature in order to place it upon a lasting and useful footing, they nevertheless take the liberty to state for the information of His Excellency, that they would much rather see the Institution endowed in some other way than to receive a portion of the property now vested in the Corporation of the University of King's College, however unwise the grant might have been in its origin.

The Members of the Corporation of the College of Regiopolis beg further leave to state for the information of His Excellency, that they are of opinion such an endowment can be made without infringing on the vested rights of any other Institution, and in a manner much more congenial with their own feelings and with those of the community to which they belong,—they mean, out of the unalienated Estates formerly possessed by the Order of the Society of Jesus, the proceeds of which can never be justly diverted from the ends which the donors had in view, that is, the Education of the Catholic Youth, and the spread of the Catholic Faith in Lower Canada.

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The Corporation of the College of Regiopolis are aware that in order to harmonize with the wants and wishes of the greater portion of the people of Upper Canada, for whose benefit the University of King's College was founded, many changes are still necessary to be made in the Charter of that Institution, but they are, on the other hand, also aware that there exists such a variety of opinions, some of them so illiberal and unreasonable, whereas others under the deceptive appearance of liberality would exclude from the Institution every species of Religious Instruction, and introduce instead thereof a perfect system of infidel teaching, that they find it difficult to determine what those changes should be.

The Corporation of the College of Regiopolis are not convinced that in order to procure for the youth of Upper Canada the blessings of a proper system of Education, a University is at all necessary, and more especially one endowed on the large scale on which that of King's College has been through the munificence of the Government. They are much inclined to believe with a renowned author that, "the reputation of Universities is almost always shortlived, or else it survives their merits; if they are richly endowed, Professors become fat-witted, and never imagine that the Arts and Sciences are any thing else but incomes. If Universities slenderly endowed are rendered famous by the accidental occurrence of a few great Teachers, the number of Scholars attracted by the reputation of the place make the situation of a Professor worth intriguing for. The learned pate is not fond of ducking to the golden fool. He who has the best talent for getting office has most commonly the least for filling it; and men are made Moral and Mathematical Teachers by the same trick with which they are made Tide Waiters and Clerks of the Customs".

Under the above convictions, the Corporation of the College of Regiopolis are of opinion that it would be much more beneficial for the community at large, if the Charter of the University of King's College were repealed: and the four Colleges already chartered, that is King's College, Toronto, Victoria College, Cobourg, Queen's College, Kingston, or wherever else the Trustees choose to erect it, the College of Regiopolis, Kingston, and a College of Law and Medicine to be erected somewhere in the Province, endowed out of the proceeds of the property now vested in the Trustees of the University of King's College.

I am, &c.

(Signed,) ANGUS McDONELL,
Vicar General.J. M. Higginson, Esquire,
Civil Secretary,
&c. &c. &c.

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