

In addition to this comprehensive Course of Study, modern Text-books of an approved standard were also prescribed. Regulations were not only provided to facilitate the proper management and internal discipline of these Schools, but also, under the direction of two able Inspectors,—then, for the first time, appointed,—to see that the Schools themselves were made thoroughly efficient.

Then, as to the improvement projected and carried out in regard to "Higher Education," it is gratifying to know that it was most thorough and satisfactory. Chapter XXIV of this Volume will show that the entire Course of Study in the University of Toronto was enlarged and revised on a harmonious and comprehensive plan, and the Prizes and Scholarships and other Honours in the University were rearranged and classified, so as to adapt the enlarged and improved Curriculum of that University to the wants and needs of the increasing number of Youths in the Province seeking a University Education.

It is satisfactory to know, that the greatly increased interest felt by the public in the active educational movements of the day met with a practical response, in regard to the subjects of study, on the part of the Educational Authorities of other Colleges and Universities in the Province. As a further evidence of the impulse which the subject of Higher Education had received during these years, Charters were applied for to the Legislature in 1854 and 1855, on behalf of three new Colleges in Upper Canada;—two of which Charters were granted, the third failed,—its promoters having neglected to observe the Rules of the House of Assembly applicable to such cases.

One interesting incident, in regard to the finances of the University of Toronto, occurred in 1855, to which no reference is made in the Minutes of the Senate of the University, or in any of the Senate Reports to the Legislature. Excepting in the Bursar's Financial Statement, the following is the only record of the incident which I have been able to discover.

In a Letter addressed to the Bursar by the Reverend Doctor McCaul he states that:—

The Bishop of Toronto placed in my hands this morning the sum of Four hundred pounds, (£400), with a request that I should hand it to you, with the object of its being added to the Funds of the University. He informed me that he had received it from a Person who felt that he could not retain it, as he was satisfied that it did not belong to him, but to the University.

TORONTO, 16th of May, 1855.

JOHN MCCAUL.

The only clue which I can discover to this singular case is, that, in the early years of the management of King's College, the financial accounts of the University were kept in a most careless and unreliable manner. Pages 12 and 18 of the Eighth Volume of this Documentary History reveal a state of things, which, on one of these pages is characterized as "scandalous." My surmise is, that the heir of one of the early defaulters, when his relative's property came into his hands, felt that, as the money bequeathed "did not belong to him," decided to make reparation for the wrong done by his relative, and to hand over the money to the University, through the Bishop of Toronto, who was cognizant of these financial defalcations of the early days of King's College.