

ate Institutes, when they would be justly dealt with under a system of "payment by results." The present exclusive scholarship system was justly condemned, and the manner in which consolidation would break up the monopoly was clearly shown.

(7.) The prevailing difficulties in connection with the *denominational* phase of the question. In a good scheme of consolidation these discordant elements would be harmonized; zeal for a particular sect will not be allowed to retard the progress of higher education; and the effete agitations of section and party will give place to calm and candid counsel.

III. *Scheme of Consolidation.*—Four general plans have been proposed for the solution of this problem: the first, "*affiliation*;" the second he termed "*absorption*;" the third, "*annihilation*;" and the fourth, "*consolidation*."

These Mr. McHenry illustrated as follows:—The *first*, to borrow a term from insurance, is a relation with limited and specified profits; the *second*, the surrender of all honors and profits for the benefit of the company; the *third*, a surrender of policy and profits, followed by death from starvation; and the *fourth*, a full participation in the profits, and a seat at the Board of Directors.

(1.) "*Affiliation*," as practically understood in Ontario, is regarded as a legal possibility rather than esteemed as a privilege. No sufficient tangible encouragement is offered the colleges. Affiliation, as contemplated by the Act of 1853, implied, at first, the distribution of \$35,000, afterwards of \$20,000 annually, to the outlying colleges. When the "surplus" failed, this latter sum was voted by the legislature for twelve years, when it was cut off at a stroke—a stroke, moreover, which seems to have cut the University adrift from the Colleges—

leaving her, however, in peaceful possession of the entire endowment.

(2.) "*Absorption*" is the unconditional surrender of degree-conferring powers, and the sending of students to Toronto for all degrees, except those in Divinity. This he regarded as an unwise and unnecessary centralization,—a dangerous monopoly.

(3.) "*Annihilation*," legislative interference in cancelling the charters of all denominational colleges, leaving the one at Toronto to do duty for the Province. The first is the least objectionable; but all are unsuitable in a national university system.

(4.) "*Consolidation*."—By this term is understood "the opposite of the present system in many of its important features—an aggregation of its *dissecta membra*; a concentration of diffused and wasted energy; a blending of interests and feelings, instead of factions, opposition and petty rivalries. At present, the elements of our university system are floating about, as it were, in solution—incoherent, amorphous particles—with neither affiliation nor affinity. What is needed is the introduction of some power to collect these elements into a symmetrical solid, one grand compound crystal, if you please—isomorphous, beautiful, perfect. Do you fear that this crystal, while symmetrical as a newly formed snow-flake, may, of necessity, be as cold and lifeless as the icy mass with which it mingles? Do you regard an ice-bound, petrified, or cast-iron university system, the necessary result of consolidation? We are told that, accompanying the formation of certain crystals, *light* is produced. Perhaps, if we make one honest effort to emerge from our present isolation and darkness, light will be given at the moment when most needed; perhaps the removal of prejudice may be succeeded by the dawn of a brighter day—a light so bright