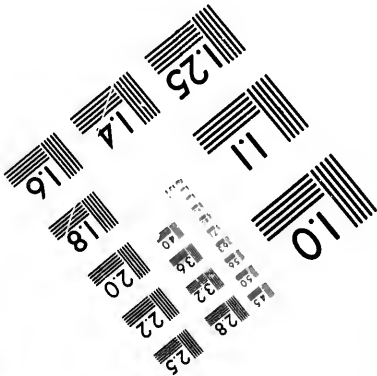
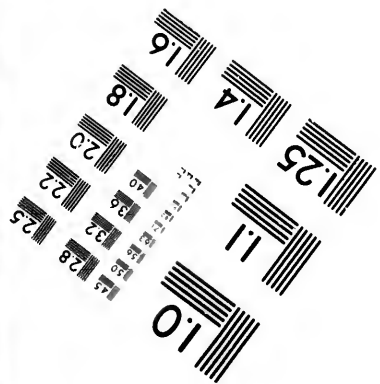
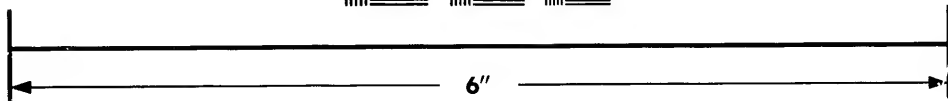
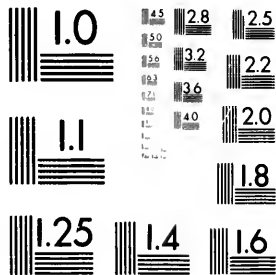


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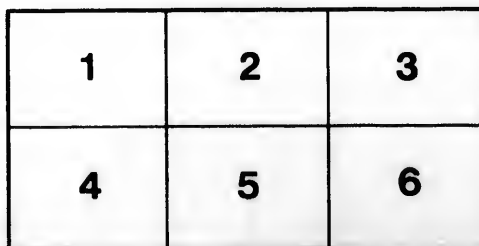
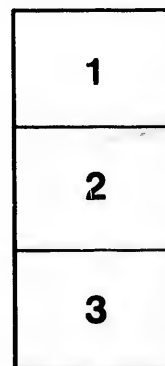
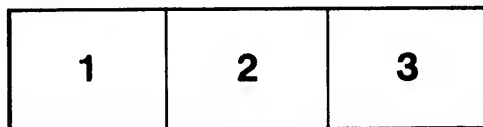
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Queen's College and University

REMARKS

ON

COLLEGE ACCOMMODATION

SUBMITTED BY

**SIR SANDFORD FLEMING, K.C.M.G., LL.D.,
CHANCELLOR,**

**AT THE ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE**

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

KINGSTON, APRIL 25TH, 1899

W. JACKSON, PRINTER



The local members of the University Council believe it to be their duty, as citizens of Kingston, to submit to the serious consideration of their fellow-citizens the following "Remarks on College Accommodation," made by their esteemed Chancellor at the annual meeting. The subject of the address is for Kingstonians rather than for the Senate or Trustees. It is not to the interest of the Professors in any way that the number of the students should be doubled or trebled. They have as many students now as they can conveniently handle, and they can do better work with small than with large classes. Neither is it of importance pecuniarily to the Trustees. A greater number of students would demand a larger staff and other heavy expenditures; whereas Queen's, as it is, meets the objects which it was designed to serve and with which the Board was intrusted. But, it is a matter of vital importance to the city, merely from the financial point of view, that the outward growth of the University should not be arrested. Once arrested, the hour for action will have passed. Now then is the time to consider whether the city, which has not yet contributed directly to an institution which has done so much for it, should not erect the new building, and to consider what conditions it should propose. If you have anything to say on either matter, write to the papers or to the Registrar of the Council, or press your views on your representatives in the City Council.

REMARKS ON COLLEGE ACCOMMODATION

Submitted by the Chancellor at the annual meeting of
the University Council, April 25th, 1899.

MEMBERS OF THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL :

I feel it my duty to recall to your attention a subject which was referred to in the Principal's report submitted to the Council a year ago, action on which was deferred until the present meeting. At my request the Registrar sent a circular in January last to each member of the Council, pointing out that the matter demanded full and careful consideration, in order that the wisest course might be followed at this meeting. The Council will therefore, I trust, be prepared to deal with it. The subject is referred to in the following extract from the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the University Council, April 26th, 1898 :

“ The Principal submitted his report. This year (1898) having completed the twenty-first of his service, he outlined the progress of the University during that time. The number of students, in all the faculties, in 1876-7 was 130; in 1897-8, 589. Then there was but one building, the one now used by the Medical Faculty. In 1879 the main building was erected; in 1889 the Carruthers' Hall was added; and now the *limit of accommodation has been reached*. Of the 589 students, fortunately more than 100 are extra-mural. It would be impossible to accommodate the whole number in the class-rooms. The progress of the University can be seen still more markedly in the additions to the staff, and to the equipment, and still more to the honour work accomplished. Looking to the future, it was absolutely necessary either to call a halt or to provide more accommodation. He suggested that a new building should be erected for consulting rooms, library, and Museum; with a gymnasium in the basement. Then the present library and museum might be used as class-rooms. Other suggestions were made by him as to the best means of dealing with the emergency; but all involved a probable expenditure of \$50,000 or \$60,000, for buildings, and \$20,000 more for maintenance. He asked that the Council take into consideration the whole matter, so that some action may be agreed upon next year. The

Principal then discussed the loss of revenue from decline in the rate of interest and other causes in the past twenty-one years. The fees, however, had increased from about \$300 to over \$10,000. Queen's is the only university in the land counting its benefactors by the thousand, but as few of them are rich, it is necessary to enlist the interest of all in so important an undertaking as that of increased accommodation."

The progress of the University, especially since 1876, has been remarkable. The number of students has increased from 130 in that year to 633 during the session now closing. There has been a steady increase year by year. During the whole period of twenty-two years the annual increase has averaged 35 per cent. In consequence of this remarkable progress the buildings have become overcrowded, and the accommodation at one time ample, is now deficient. The Principal reported a year ago, that the limit of accommodation has been reached." "Looking to the future," he says "it is absolutely necessary either to call a halt or to provide more accommodation." This state of affairs brings us face to face with a grave difficulty, from which there is no escape. We must either incur a large expenditure in erecting new buildings to meet the demand for admission to the University, or close the doors against all new students over the present number in attendance. The first we are wholly unable to undertake without going into debt, as we have not the means to erect new buildings, and our endowment is barely sufficient, with the most economical management, to make ends meet. Moreover there is loss of revenue from the decline in the rate of interest. For the University to go into debt without a reasonably certain prospect of being able to meet the obligation, is in the last degree inadmissible. There remains the alternative mentioned, and it is with the very deepest regret we are forced to contemplate its possibility.

Before the alternative be accepted as inevitable it appears to my mind to be due to the people of Kingston that they should be made aware of the facts. The relations between Kingston and Queen's have always been most friendly. The City owes

much to the University and it is only right, it seems to me, that we should at this juncture take counsel with the City, before deciding to take a step in which the interests of the people of Kingston are not a little concerned. I believe I am perfectly correct in saying that the prosperity of Queen's University is not a matter of indifference to Kingston. Turning to the records of Doomsday Book, I find that we are indebted to citizens of Kingston in great part for some of the College buildings. The main building was presented by the Mayor on October 14th, 1880, and we can never forget to whom we owe the John Carruthers Science Hall. I deem it proper to recall these among other liberal acts of a public spirited community. The people of Kingston have rallied around the University since its beginning. The evidence goes to show that the most friendly reciprocal feeling has always existed, as it does to-day, and but for the happy relationship which has so long prevailed, it is not improbable that there would have been no university in Kingston. Every member of the Council will remember the influences which were employed about fifteen years back to move Queen's to Toronto, but the governing body of Queen's and all her friends unaimously decided to reject the proposal and remain where the University was first wisely planted sixty years ago.

In recounting the aid and sympathy which Queen's has so frequently received from citizens, we may without any impropriety, enquire if the city, as a community, has lost or gained in a pecuniary sense thereby. In considering the matter in this aspect it is not for a moment to be thought that the people of Kingston have been actuated by sordid motives. I simply ask myself the question, has the expenditure by Kingston on account of the University been wise or unwise from a business stand-point? Has the developement of a seat of learning in this part of Canada been of any material advantage to the city of Kingston? In order to obtain an answer to this question, I applied for information to several well known Kingston men, whose business intelligence and knowledge of local affairs none

will dispute. Among others I asked Mr. George Y. Chown if he could form an estimate of the amount expended annually in Kingston by and through the University. From the information thus obtained, the estimate is as follows :

Disbursements per Annum.—By and through the professors, \$35,000; by and through the students, \$60,000; through affiliated schools, \$25,000; miscellaneous expenditure by visitors, maintenance of the property, heating, lighting, etc. \$10,000, total, \$130,000.

From the same source I learn that the contributions of the citizens of Kingston (not including the professors) have been at various times as follows :

Kingston Subscriptions.—To the Endowment Fund of 1869-70, \$21,300; Building Fund, 1878, \$41,100; Mr. Carruthers for Science Hall, \$10,000; Jubilee Fund, \$35,000; total, \$108,000.

If to this sum (\$108,000) be added the amount subscribed by the professors to the Jubilee Fund, and likewise the subscriptions of citizens before 1869, the whole contributions of Kingston from the beginning may have reached \$125,000. The estimate of annual disbursements goes to show that, quite apart from the immeasurably greater intellectual and educational advantages and privileges, which the University confers on the community, the actual returns in money are not inconsiderable. Kingston has helped to build up in Eastern Ontario a seat of learning of which she is proud, and she has already met with her reward even in a material sense. There is now returned to the people, each and every year, a sum which is probably not less than the whole of their generous benefactions from the beginning. In a business sense it may be said that the community has made a good investment; an investment which actually yields more than 100 per cent. per annum. And further, if we capitalize this return we find that the University possesses a money value to Kingston, as a revenue producing asset, of \$2,600,000.

These estimates place the relationship of the City and the

University in a new light; they go to show that in Queen's, the City of Kingston has a large stake, and that in a purely business point of view the citizens are deeply concerned in the progress and expansion of the University. If that be the case, do we not owe it to the citizens as a friendly act to take them into our confidence and inform them how we stand, before arriving at a conclusion which would practically arrest the external development of this seat of learning? In my judgment it is highly proper that the University Council should bring the whole matter to the knowledge of the Municipal Corporation of the city and afford that body an opportunity of doing what may be deemed best in the interests of the people whom they represent. Should the course suggested be followed and the Mayor and Corporation be invited to consider the situation in the interests of the citizens, I think it well that there should be placed before them certain other matters which cannot and ought not to be lost sight of at this juncture in our history.

On the ground that this University is regarded as denominational, it has been ruled out of any right to state aid, and we make no claim on the Government. Queen's received small annual grants from the Provincial chest during the first quarter of a century of its existence. These grants amounted, in the aggregate, to \$85,000, but no public money has been received for over thirty years. It is quite true that the University has certain religious affiliations, but the people of Kingston know well that for sixty years its doors and degrees have been thrown open to all, on the same terms, irrespective of creed or class or colour. They know, too, that from the earliest date to the present, the only consideration has been to maintain the educational work of the University at the highest standard of excellence. In Queen's there is one denominational faculty and one only. The remaining faculties are as free as are the public schools of the city, or the provincial university in Toronto. There is no denominationalism in Arts, or in Science, or in Engineering, or in Medicine. The Faculty of Divinity is quite distinct

from all the others, and as to the number of students in this faculty the exact number is 42 out of our 633, or one-fifteenth (1-15) of the whole number of students registered.

The people of Kingston recognize that Queen's is not a sectarian institution; none know better than they that it is far more national than denominational. The testimony of the graduates themselves is sufficient on this point, for they are of all denominations; and, in support of the claim that the teaching is Catholic in the widest sense, we count among our friends the adherents of every church. Arts is the central faculty of Queen's, as in all universities. Our Arts course is similar to the Arts course at the Provincial University in Toronto, and graduates in Arts at both universities are placed by the Department of Education on precisely the same footing. Every graduate in Arts is a decided gain to the community. A degree in this faculty is simply a certificate of scholarship, denoting a liberal education, and a liberal education is the greatest up-lifting power in a state. Each new graduate, wherever educated, constitutes an addition to the cultivated intellectual capital of the province.

We greatly respect the University of Toronto, recognizing that it is doing noble work in augmenting this higher capital of the nation. The Provincial University has been the means of stamping with a degree in Arts no less than 2512 graduates. While Toronto has done so well I find that Kingston has not been idle, for at this University 987 students have attained the same academic rank. I likewise find that Kingston is gaining on Toronto, for in recent years the annual increase of students at Queen's has been greater than at the Provincial University. I have stated that the educational standard of the two is identical. There is however one marked distinction to which I must allude. At the Provincial University a large amount of public money has been expended, while at Queen's there has been but little, and for the last thirty years none whatever. The enquiries I have made go to establish that the Provincial University at Toronto has cost, in all, to date, \$3,724,000, while during the

whole period of the existence of the University at Kingston it has received, according to the information I have acquired, only \$85,000 out of the public chest.

These facts enable us to form a proper conception of the public value of Queen's as a Canadian school of higher education. If we simply judge by results the conclusion is obvious, that this university is rendering no mean service to the state. Applying a financial test to its value, we have only to compare it with the cost of the same service in Toronto. Admitting without question that the 2512 graduates of Toronto University are worth to the province all they have cost, on this basis of computation, Queen's University by elevating 987 students to the same academic rank, has placed the province in our debt fully a million and a quarter dollars. Moreover the obligation is being augmented every year, as our students in Arts are increasing, I believe more rapidly than at any other seat of learning in the Dominion.

My purpose in referring to these matters is not with the view of making pecuniary claims. It is in order that we may intelligently consider the facts, and that if the Council deems it expedient we may bring them to the attention of the municipality of Kingston. I have shown that the citizens, by wisely making the cause of higher education their own, have not only benefitted themselves, but have assisted in greatly benefitting the whole Province. I have pointed out that Queen's is doing good work and accomplishing a high purpose in extending to Eastern Ontario the advantages of university education, thus promoting the best interests of the community? The question of to-day is, shall the expansion of the University be arrested for want of sufficient accommodation? Possibly a conference with the citizens and their municipal representatives would, in the circumstances, be advisable.

