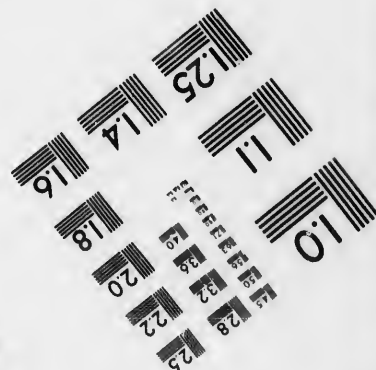
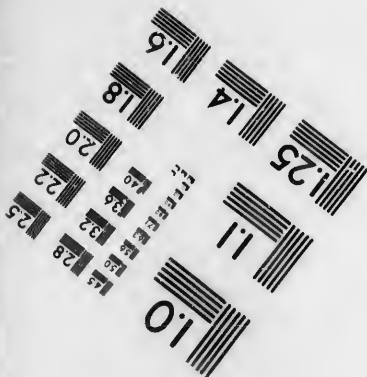
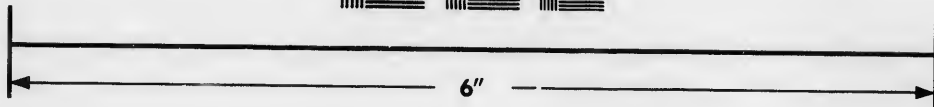
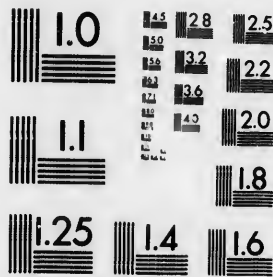


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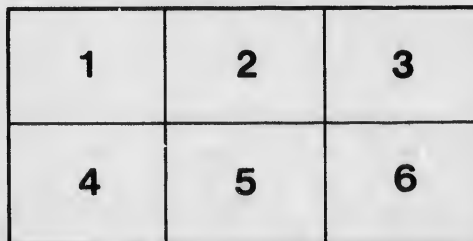
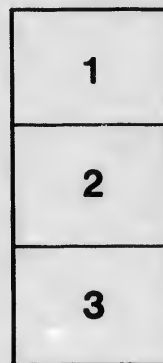
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MEMORIAL

ON BEHALF OF THE

LITERARY AND PHILOSOPHICAL INSTITUTION AT PICTOU, NOVA SCOTIA.

THE LITERARY INSTITUTION OF PICTOU, in the Province of Nova Scotia, known by the name of "THE COLLEGE OF PICTOU," was founded about eight years ago. It is formed upon the model of the Scottish Universities; and, like them, is open, in its scientific privileges, to Students of all classes in the community, without the interposition of any religious test. In it, also, the higher branches of Education are taught; and, during the short period of its existence, it has sent forth Scholars of respectable acquirements, and obtained no small measure of the approbation and confidence of the Public.

THE only other Seminary of the same description, in that or any of the adjacent Provinces, is King's College at Windsor. This is an establishment of comparatively long standing, and richly endowed, by the munificence of the British Government,—by the liberality of the Society in England for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge in Foreign Parts,—and by grants from the Provincial Government;—altogether amounting to upwards of £2000 per annum. With this splendid revenue, it maintains only two Professors, besides a Master and Usher for the tuition of a Grammar School connected with it. The average of its Students, too, is only about twenty-five; and its rules, like those of Oxford and Cambridge, are exclusive; so that, though it is supported, in a great measure, by the common funds of this Country and of the Colony, yet by far the majority of the Settlers, not belonging to the Ecclesiastical Establishment of England, are shut out from the benefit of its Education, unless they choose to sacrifice their religious principles. As a specimen of its restrictive spirit, and to shew how far it is carried into practical life, the following is the language of one of its Statutes, anticipating that it would become a University:—"No Member of the University shall frequent the Romish Mass, or the Meeting-Houses of Presbyterians, Baptists, or Methodists; or the Conventicles or Places of Worship of any other Dissenters from the Church of England; or where Divine Service shall not be performed according to the Liturgy of the Church of England. . . ."

As soon as the spirit of learning and of liberality rose in the Province, it was not to be expected that these restrictions, alike unnecessary and injudicious, would be long endured. Accordingly, a remedy was proposed in the erection of a new and more liberal Seminary; a bill was introduced into the Provincial Legislature for this purpose; and, supported by the active and cordial co-operation of Dissenters of all classes in the Colony,—consisting of Presbyterians from the Church of Scotland and the Secession, as well as of Baptists and Methodists, both of whom are numerous and respectable,—it was carried, notwithstanding strenuous opposition from the abettors of the Old system; and a Charter of Incorporation, though without the power of conferring degrees, was at length obtained through the wisdom and firmness of the Legislature.

THOUGH this new institution, since its commencement, has educated at least an equal number of Students, and, it may be presumed, contributed equally to the benefit of the Public, yet the provision made for its support is scanty and inadequate. Beside a grant of £500 to assist the Trustees in the erection of a building, it has received only £400 per annum for the support of the whole Establishment; and, as the state of society in the Provinces required that the spirit of Education should be cherished with care, the funds of the Institution have as yet derived no assistance from the exaction of fees. Of necessity, a debt, amounting to £800, has been incurred; and though a few Books and Instruments have been collected, it is still circumscribed in its usefulness, and by no means adequate either to the wants or to the wishes of the Colonists. Two Professors have hitherto been necessitated to undergo the almost overwhelming labour of teaching all the classes, literary and scientific. Though a third were obtained, each would still have to conduct the business of two classes; and, to render the whole efficient, a considerable addition would require to be made both to the Library and Philosophical Apparatus.

LIBERAL, however, as this Institution is in its character, and acceptable as it has proved in its results to the greater number of the Colonists, it is not to be expected that this additional Professorship shall be endowed, or the sum necessary for the purchase of more Books and a better apparatus can be provided by them. After what they have already done, such exertions are beyond their ability; for though possessing the necessities, they can command few of the superfluities of life; and the late peace, which was so desirable on many accounts, has produced injurious effects upon this dependency of the empire. By depressing trade in the Colony,—depreciating the value of the landed property, as well as of the staple commodities,—and diminishing the quantity of the circulating medium, it has put it out of their power, for the present at least, to contribute much to the support of any public institution, however useful or popular.

ANOTHER College has, indeed, been projected at Halifax, and the arrangements concerning it have been carried to a certain degree of forwardness; but it has met with difficulties in its progress; it has never yet been in operation; and whether it will become a useful institution, appears to be uncertain. In illustration of this remark, the following extract is taken from the Report of a Committee of the Legislative Assembly upon the state of the Pictou Academy:—
 “As from the evidence before them, and other considerations, the Committee are obliged to believe that this Institution will be attended by a class of persons who, on various accounts, are, and will be, incapable of prosecuting their studies at King’s College, Windsor, or in the Institution of *doubtful and uncertain stability, now forming in Halifax*; they have deemed it their duty, under the clearest conviction of the invaluable benefits which Education confers on a country, to recommend the Pictou Academy to the continued support and fostering care of the General Assembly; and believing the honorary Collegiate distinctions to be useful as incitements to the emulation and diligence of Students, and to be the means of extending the respectability, and character, and influence of the Institution, while the incapacity to grant them possesses a tendency injurious, and, perhaps, discreditable to it, the Committee cannot perceive any substantial reason for refusing to allow these privileges to the Academy.”

In these circumstances, the Friends and Trustees of “The Pictou Seminary” have ventured to make this appeal to the generosity of the liberal and enlightened Friends of Science in Britain. They wish, by the aid of their countrymen, to enable this infant and promising Institution to surmount the adversities with which it has been beset and assailed, and to enlarge its usefulness by multiplying its means of Education; in short, to render it still more efficient as a Scientific and Christian Seminary. And they cannot but indulge the hope, that they shall be made happy in being permitted to participate, in a degree somewhat proportioned to the importance of the object, of that current of British benevolence, which is flowing abroad at this moment in many a noble stream, refreshing foreign parts, and blessing the world.

This application is made through the medium of the Rev. Dr McCulloch, whose worth, talents, and learning, have deservedly procured for him high consideration among persons of all ranks in the colony, and whose unwearied and strenuous efforts have contributed much, not only to the success of the attempt for the erection of the Seminary, but also to its present state of efficiency and favour with the Public;—and, to shew that he possesses the full confidence of those who take an interest in its affairs, or hope to enjoy the benefit of its liberal provisions, it has been considered proper to subjoin the Testimonials with which, upon leaving the Colony for a short time, he was furnished by persons of different persuasions in religion, and of the first rank in society.

HAVING perused the above Representation, with the annexed documents, we, the undersigning, from the most credible testimony, from our intimate acquaintance with the Rev. Dr McCulloch, and from collateral facts which have come within our knowledge, have every reason to believe that the above statement is entirely correct.

JAMES HAL. D. D. *Edinburgh.*
 GEORGE PAXTON, S. T. P. *Edinburgh.*
 JOHN MITCHELL. D. D. *Glasgow.*

WE, the Subscribers, having considered the above Representation; and being satisfied both that the Seminary to which it refers, was called for in the Province of Nova Scotia, and that it is calculated to diffuse the blessings of a liberal Education among a great majority of the Colonists, who, it appears, by the restrictive statutes of the College at Windsor, would otherwise be excluded from it, do concur in recommending it to the Public in this Country.

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- JOHN SINCLAIR, Bart. of Ulster.
- GEORGE H. BAIRD, D. D. Principal of the University, Edinburgh.
- H. MONCREIFF WELLWOOD, Bart. Minister of St Cuthbert’s, Edinburgh.
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- THOMAS M’CREE, D. D. Edinburgh.
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- JAMES KIRKWOOD, Minister, James’s Place, Edinburgh.
- JAMES PILLANS, A. M. Professor of Humanity, University, Edinburgh.
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- GEORGE JARDINE, Professor of Logic, University, Glasgow.
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- JAMES EWING, Merchant, Glasgow.

THE Subscribers, Members of the Assembly for the Province of Nova Scotia, and the Barristers, Counsellors, and Attorneys, practising in his Majesty's Courts of Judicature in the said Province, having heard that the Rev. Dr M'Culloch is about to visit Great Britain, embrace this opportunity of testifying to himself and the world, the high estimation in which he is held by us, both as a Scholar and as a Divine. He has been chiefly instrumental in founding an Academy at Pictou, for teaching the higher branches of Literature and Science; and has presided over the Institution since its establishment. We are well assured, that his zeal and perseverance in the discharge of his duties there have been successful in the highest degree, and only equalled by the piety he has displayed in disseminating religious knowledge throughout an extensive community. We affectionately recommend him to the attention and kindness of the promoters of Science and Religion in all countries.

WM. ALLEN CHIPMAN, M. P.
 THOS. HOACH, M. P.
 WILLIAM LAWSON, M. P.
 GEORGE SMITH, M. P.
 CHARLES R. FAIRBANKS, M. P. and Barrister at Law.
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 EDWARD JAMES, M. P.
 S. G. W. ARCHIBALD, Speaker of the House of Assembly,
 and King's Counsel.
 JOHN WELLS, M. P.
 THOMAS DICKSON, M. P. and Barrister at Law.
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 JOHN M'KINNON, M. P.

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 W. Q. SAVERS, Barrister at Law.
 SCOTT TREMAIN, Barrister at Law.
 DAVID SHAW CLARK, Barrister at Law.
 BEAMISH MUNROCH, Barrister.

As the Wesleyan Missionaries belonging to the Nova-Scotia District, and now assembled in their Annual District Meeting, have been informed by the Rev. Thomas M'Culloch, D. D., President of the Pictou Academy in this Province, and Minister of the Presbyterian Church, that he is about to visit Great Britain, to promote the interests of the Literary Institution over which he presides, it affords them much pleasure to bear their humble testimony in his favour, and to recommend him to the Members of the Wesleyan Mission Committee, as well as to our Ministers in those places which he may visit, as a gentleman who is very generally and deservedly respected in this Province, for the excellence of his general character, his extensive literary attainments, and the unwearied and praiseworthy efforts which he has made to effect the permanent establishment of a Provincial Literary Institution on such an enlightened and liberal plan as would secure to Christians of every denomination the means of obtaining a liberal education, together with those academic honours which are usually associated with it, without their having to submit to such regulations as infringe upon the sacred rights of conscience.

(Signed by order and in behalf of the District Meeting)

STEPHEN BINFORD, *Chairman.*
 R. ALDER, *Secretary.*

LIVERPOOL, NOVA-SCOTIA, June 1, 1825.

THE Nova Scotia Baptist Association in Session at Amherst, County of Cumberland, and Province of Nova-Scotia, on the 27th and 28th of June, 1825, having received a communication from the Rev. Thomas M'Culloch, D.D., Principal of an Academy in Pictou, in this Province, concerning his contemplated voyage to Britain, the object of his voyage, &c. &c., do cheerfully comply with the Reverend Doctor's reasonable request, and recommend him to all denominations professing Protestant Christianity in Britain,—to Dissenters in particular,—and especially to those of our own denomination,—as a gentleman of universal good character, and one who, by his literary and theological knowledge, is eminently well qualified to fill the important station of President in such an Institution.

We lament, however, that the Seminary is, by law, restricted to the Presbyterians, to the exclusion of all other Dissenters. This, we know, the Reverend Doctor and the Trustees generally lament, and say that it was a measure forced upon them, &c. But we rejoice to say, that any Dissenter may have his son educated in the Pictou Academy, without any danger of the peculiarities of his sect being interfered with at all; and that he hath given us the most decided proofs of his liberality of sentiment, and that he hath the interest of Dissenters, in every point of view, very near at heart. And we pray that he may have a prosperous voyage, by the will of God,—and that he may be very successful in the object of his contemplated voyage,—and that he may be a great blessing to his British friends,—and that they may be a great blessing to him,—and that he may be restored to his dear family, the Seminary, and to his very numerous friends in Nova-Scotia.

(Signed by order and in behalf of the Association)

JOSEPH DIMOCK, *Moderator.*
 CHARLES TUPPER, *Clerk.*

