

be the future rulers, guardians and guides of the people at large—for mind must ever be in the ascendant, and it is, as all history proves, the cultivated mind that wields the sceptre of sovereignty and compels an unconscious homage to its power. In our hands has been placed the weighty charge of bringing into working order a scheme whereby we shall raise the standard of higher education, and aid the several colleges in accomplishing that which those most interested in them ardently desire—the most elevated and the most useful style of scholarship, which, under our circumstances, can be obtained.

As there was an unwillingness on the part of the governing bodies of the several valuable institutions of learning in this and the neighboring provinces to unite the Faculties in one compact body and at one common centre, it ought not to be doubted that the establishment of a University on the model of the University of London is a wise, judicious and necessary movement. The adoption of a uniform standard of attainment in knowledge, to be tested by the most competent examiners that can be found, must act as a stimulant to both professors and teachers. It is astonishing what progress the University of London has made, even in that great country where the Universities of Cambridge, and Oxford, and Edinburgh stand on such vantage ground, and hold such high and dignified places. Men crowd to it from all colleges and schools to be examined for their degrees, anxious that it will give them a *locus standi* among the learned men, not alone of the country but of the age. In 1838, the total number of candidates at all the examinations was 23. In 1850, it had risen to 355; in 1860, to 788; in 1870, to 1495; in 1875, to 1893. More than forty institutions, beginning with the great universities of the United Kingdom, are in connection with the University of London as to degrees in Arts and Laws, and 89 institutions from which the University receives certificates to entitle men to submit to examination for degrees in Medicine. This is proof of the high estimation in which the honors conferred by that University (on which our own is modelled) is held by the intelligent and educated people of Great Britain and Ireland. True, the standard is exceedingly high both for matriculation and examination for degrees—so high that a very large proportion of candidates fail to pass, as for example, in the matriculation examination for 1873 there were 917 candidates, of these only 447 passed. In 1875 there were 1021 candidates, and of these only 522 passed. So in the first examination for the degree of Bachelor of Arts, 229 candidates, of whom 121 passed; in the second examination, 106 candidates, of whom 61 passed. In science 90 candidates, of whom 52 passed; in law 35, of whom 13 passed; but in medicine out of 68 candidates for the first degree no less than 50 passed—thus for the preliminary examination out of 185 only 107 passed. It would be a great step to accomplish that we should some day become affiliated with this great University, but I fear that at present we can only hope to work ourselves up to a position which on some future day shall entitle us to seek that honor and advantage, for the matriculation examination, to say nothing of that for degrees, is so severe that we could scarce hope to be admitted just now as an affiliated college, and, indeed, I trust and fondly hope that this will be one good result arising from our united energies, and especially from the presence on this Board of the learned men who preside over the several colleges, that a strong and united effort will be made to raise by degrees the standard of matriculation in our colleges, and that by means of high schools in the country youths may be better prepared when they seek to enter our institutions, and the valuable-time of the professors and tutors be not occupied, as in too many instances it now is, for the first year or two, in giving instructions in the mere elements of the various branches of knowledge taught in their halls, doing, in fact, in the college lecture room the work which should have been done by the school-master in the school-room. Time may, and doubtless will, bring this about, and the sooner the better for our welfare and progress. But acting in harmony, and loyal to the duty of securing the stability and promoting the success of this University, as I assume every one of us to be by the very fact of our acceptance of a seat in this Senate, we need have no fears but that our combined counsels will in time issue in the realization of the object in view.

And now, gentlemen, permit me to offer, with all respect, one or two suggestions with regard to the work immediately before us to-day. In the first place it seems to my humble judgment that we should address ourselves at once and vigorously to the practical portion of the Act of the Legislature, and avoid altogether, for the present, any discussion relative to the constitution of the University. That in time useful suggestions may be made for the alteration or amendment of the charter there can be little doubt, but our wisest course at this, our first meeting, will be to arrange, as far as possible, for the immediate and effective working of the Act, as placed in our hands. We shall have much to do—a pressure of business on our hands—and I have, in order to facilitate its dispatch as much as possible, drawn up a list of those matters which, it appears to me, are imperative to be attended to at once:

- ORDER OF BUSINESS, UNIVERSITY OF HALIFAX.—SEPTEMBER 13, 1876.
- The office of Registrar; its duties, salary, and the appointment thereto.
- Time and place of meeting of Convocation.
- Committee to frame bye-laws and regulations.
- Committee on Fees.
- Committee to draw up a Curriculum (to be submitted to this Senate).
- Time, place and manner of examinations for degrees.
- Matriculation Examinations.
- Examiners and their remuneration.
- Travelling Expenses of Fellows of Senate.
- Provision for incidental expenses.
- Seal and Certificate.

These (and other points which may be considered necessary of discussion and settlement by other members of the Senate) will give us as much and serious work as we can well accomplish at our present meeting. So vast and important are the interests committed to our care that we may well feel a deep responsibility and need of singular wisdom, patience and skill, and I invoke from Him who alone can guide us aright the spirit of wisdom and counsel and sound understanding, that we may do all as in His sight and for His glory in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ.

We are now assembled to organize the Senate of the University of Halifax and I request you to formally complete the organization of the same by the appointment of a Registrar and then to enter upon our other duties.

There were three candidates for the office of Registrar, Mr. Sumichrast, Mr. Chesley and Rev. A. Brown.

It was resolved that the office of Registrar should be filled annually by election, and that the salary attached to it should be \$400.

After which a ballot was taken, and there appeared—For Mr. Sumichrast, 11 votes; for Mr. Chesley, 7; for Rev. A. Brown, 4.

On a second ballot Mr. Sumichrast received 11 votes and Mr. Chesley 11. The Chancellor, in addition to his vote in the ballot, gave his casting vote in favor of Mr. Sumichrast, who was declared duly elected Registrar.

It was resolved to summon a meeting of Convocation to be held on the 27th December next, in the Legislative Library, the fee payable by members to be \$1 on admission, and \$1 annually.

Revs. J. Ambrose and G. M. Grant and Mr. L. G. Power were appointed a committee to report a list of names to the Senate.

In the Afternoon Session. Rev. Mr. Ambrose reported, on behalf of the Committees, the following list of names: Committee on Curriculum—Rev. President Dart, Prof. Lawson, President Allison, Rev. R. McDonald, Prof. Higgins, Rev. Geo. M. Grant, L. G. Power, Dr. A. P. Reid, Rev. Prof. A. McKnight.

Committee on Bye-Laws, Regulations, and Fees.—Hon. S. L. Shannon, J. S. D. Thompson, His Worship M. H. Richey, Rev. J. Ambrose, Rev. Principal Ross, Rev. E. M. Saunders, Rev. T. J. Daly, Dr. R. S. Black, Prof. Inch.

The report was adopted.

Judge Wilkins read a paper on matters requiring the attention of the Senate in the mode of conducting its Examinations. He said the difficulties appeared under three aspects:

- 1st. As to the competency of examiners, in fact.
- 2nd. As to their impartiality, in fact.
- 3rd. As to a conviction which it is necessary to raise, in the minds of those who may read their approving testimonials, of the competency and the impartiality of the examiners, viewed as matters of reputation.

He suggested that there might be some advantage in forming a connection or affiliation with some University in Great Britain or Ireland, of ac-

knowledge reputation, that can be induced to aid us in promoting the objects contemplated by the Legislature when it passed the statute under which we act. Such aid would be, perhaps effectively afforded by means of written examination papers prepared by that University and sent out here periodically, to be used by our examiners in a manner, and under conditions to be prescribed by the former, the written results of the examinations being afterwards transmitted to the source whence the papers emanated, with such guarantees by this Board as would convey an assurance of perfect good faith having been observed in relation to all the proceedings conducted here. If this were followed up by the ultimate sanction of that extrinsic University, duly certified, our diploma, purporting to be a testimonial of academical honors properly conferred, would be accredited and acknowledged as such wherever it might be produced and for whatever purpose it might be exhibited.

In considering the place at which the examinations of the Senate should be held, it was resolved that the examinations should be held at Halifax and simultaneously at such other places as the senate may decide, upon the request of the governing Board of any of the colleges connected with the University.

The Senate met again on Thursday morning. The report of the Committee on the Curriculum was presented by President Dart.

It was moved by Rev. A. S. Hunt:—“That the Senate approve in general of the suggestions of the Committee on the Curriculum on the subject of examinations for matriculation.”

The question of when the Examinations should be held, was then brought up. The prevailing opinion seemed to be that the Committee on the Curriculum be entrusted to ascertain the most suitable time and report at the next meeting of the Senate.

The following resolution, modified from the original one, was moved by Rev. Principal Dart, and seconded by Mr. L. G. Power.

“That the matriculation examination be dispensed with only in the cases of those students who shall have matriculated in the colleges mentioned in the Act previous to the first day of January, 1878.”

Some question here arose as to the powers of the Senate in the matter of matriculation. The following amendment was suggested by Professor Lawson and adopted as part of the original motion.

“And as there is some difference of opinion as to the powers of the Senate to cause candidates from the affiliated colleges to submit to matriculation examination, the Senate request that the Hon. Prov. Secretary will introduce such amendment to the Act as may be considered necessary to give them this power.”

On the motion as amended being put there appeared 10 for and 8 against it.

In the afternoon session the question of who should be the examiners for the University was under consideration.

Chancellor Hill said that in the London University members of the Senate could not act as examiners, but the University Act here does not prevent Fellows acting as examiners.

It was moved by Dr. A. P. Reid, that the subject of examiners and their remuneration be referred to a committee to be reported on at the next meeting of the Senate.

Hon. Prov. Secretary thought this subject must also be referred to the Committee on the Curriculum, as it would be impossible to tell how many examiners would be required until the committee reported the number of branches examinations would be held in.

Rev. G. M. Grant said that by having different sets of examiners, the expense might be reduced.

Rev. A. S. Hunt thought that at the outset it might be as well to select the examiners from men in the Province, and he believed as good a Board could be found in that way as by looking abroad.

Hon. Prov. Secretary mentioned Dr. McCawley, Prof. Hind and Dr. Honeyman, unconnected with the Senate or colleges, whose services could be secured. If a sufficient number was not thus obtained, the Examining Board could be filled up from the college Faculties.

Prof. Higgins thought it would be undesirable to employ Professors in colleges to draw up the examination questions. He was willing to trust any one professor to examine and report upon the answers. It was important that the questions should not be set by any one connected with any of the

colleges. If a system could be devised to meet this end it would probably be the best.

Rev. J. Ambrose believed it would simplify matters to act on Judge Wilkins' suggestion, and obtain the examination papers of the London University and let the Examining Board here eliminate such questions as would be found too far out of the range laid down by the Senate.

Prof. Lawson believed examiners within the Province would be better able to prepare papers suited to the requirements of the Senate than examiners from abroad.

Dr. Reid's motion was put and carried.

The Chancellor read a letter from F. W. Kelly, M. A., Ph. D., of Montreal, applying for the post of examiner in English Language, Literature and History.

A discussion arose as to the best means of providing for the travelling expenses of members of the Senate, and it was resolved,

That the members of the Senate resident in the country shall be entitled to their expenses incurred in attending meetings of the Senate or of Committees.

The Registrar was instructed to insert in two Halifax morning papers, in one morning paper of St. John, N. B., and in one P. E. Island paper, notice of the meeting of Convocation in December, and of the opening of the register of graduates.

Hon. Prov. Secretary gave notice that he would move at a future meeting that a portion of the funds at the disposal of the Senate be appropriated as prizes, or scholarships, to be awarded to those candidates who pass the best examination, either for matriculation or degrees, as the Senate may decide from time to time.

Hon. S. L. Shannon was appointed to preside at the first meeting of Convocation.

The next meeting of the Senate is to be held on Thursday, 28th December, at 11 o'clock.

After a vote of thanks to the Chancellor, the Senate adjourned.

For the Christian Messenger.

“That Proviso.”

Dear Sir,—

I see that Popish the “Proviso” has been swallowed whole by the Senate of the University of Halifax. Presbyterians were there—and Episcopalians—and Baptists—and Methodists. But they all swallowed it. Great was the triumph of the Syllabus. O Tempora! O mores!

I see also that the work of destruction has commenced. A Committee has been appointed to prepare a Curriculum. Gentlemen connected with several of the Colleges are on that committee. Now, each of those Colleges enjoys the right of preparing its own Curriculum. Have not those gentlemen virtually surrendered the right? If the work goes on, where will those Colleges be, ten years hence? Some say, “in the land of Nod”—and the wish is father to the thought.”

Baptist Senators may be reminded that by a resolution passed at the Convention they are requested “to distinctly understand that their acceptance of office must not be interpreted to indicate affiliation, direct or indirect, of Acadia College with the University of Halifax.”

In view of that resolution, what is their duty?

Yours,  
WATCHMAN.

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., September 20th, 1876.

THE WAR.

We dislike exceedingly giving in our columns the details of crime and the horrors of war, and yet a faithful record of events can hardly ignore the existence of such frightful facts. They are now become too palpable to call in question, and too dreadful to imagine that we have nothing to do with them. We know something of what the word *war* signifies, yet, mercifully, we have been preserved from the terrible experience of what is being waited to us from eastern Europe and Asia of its awful ravages, helped on by one of the worst forms of fanaticism the Mahometan religion. It appeared at first as if the barbarities were all on one side, and that the Turks were the only parties who inflicted such disgusting and revolting cruelty upon their fellow-creatures, but it now turns out that

both sides are under the charge of acting more like beasts and fiends than like men. We give brief extracts from the accounts received of the doings of the combatants on either side. The correspondent of the London *Daily News*, after detailing the ruthless and wanton destruction of hundreds of defenceless men and women, says:

These massacres were committed by the order of the authorities, and that is why the men who committed them have been rewarded with decorations and promotions. It would take a volume to tell all the stories that were related to us. But it was not only old and young men who suffered; women, young girls, infants, children were ruthlessly slaughtered. These Turks have no pity, no compassion, no bowels. They have not even the generosity, the pity of wild beasts. Even the tiger will not slay the young of its own species. But these Turks, these strong bearded men picked infants up out of their cradles with their bayonets, tossed them in the air, caught them again, and flung them at the heads of the shrieking mothers. They carried little babes about the streets on the points of their bayonets with the poor little heads and arms dropping around the barrels of their guns, and the blood streaming down over their hands. They cut off the heads of children, and compelled other children to carry the still bleeding heads about in their arms.

When we were in Panaguristi we were shown in the ruins of the church, before where had stood the altar, a black spot specked with calcined bones, on which lay a bouquet of flowers. This was the remains of a priest, Theodor Peoff, 85 years of age, who had been seized and tortured in the hopes of obtaining money, mutilated and maltreated in ways which only the foul imagination of a Turk could invent, then killed and burnt before the altar. In another place we were shown a black spot where an old blind man, Dondje Streglyoff, was beaten half to death, and then thrown senseless on a heap of wood and burnt alive.

Hundreds of women came to us recounting what they had seen and what they had suffered. Not a woman in the place seems to have escaped outrage. They all confess it openly. In other places where these things have occurred the women have shown a hesitation to speak. In some cases they denied they had been outraged, and we afterwards learned they confessed to others that they had been. At Avrat Alan a delegation of ladies called upon Mr. Schuyler to make their complaints, and he was somewhat astonished to find that they had very little to say. Upon going away, however, they left him a letter, signed by them all, saying that scarcely a woman had escaped outrage. They could not bring themselves to tell him *viva voce*; but thinking that he was investigating here in an official capacity he ought to know, they had decided to write to him. Here, however, they did not hesitate to speak out. Outrages were committed so publicly and so generally that they feel it would be useless to try to hide their shame, and they avow it openly. These acts were committed not only in the houses, but in the streets, in the yards, in the courts, for the Turks have not even the decency which may accompany vice. They have not even the modesty of villainy; they have not even the shame of nature. Mothers were outraged in the presence of their daughters; young girls in the presence of their mothers, of their sisters and brothers. One woman told us, wringing her hands and crying, that herself and her daughter, a girl of fifteen, had been violated in the same room. Another, that she was violated in the presence of her children. A girl of eighteen avowed, shuddering and bowing her face in her hands, that she had been outraged by ten soldiers. A woman who came to us on crutches, with a bullet still in her ankle, said she had been violated by three soldiers while lying wounded on the ground groaning in agony. Young, delicate, fragile little creatures, ten and twelve years old were treated in the same brutal manner. A woman told us that her daughter a tender, delicate little thing of twelve, had been seized by a Bashi-Bazouk, although she had offered all the money she had in the world, although she had offered herself if he would spare the child. Another told us of a poor little thing of ten violated in her presence with a number of other girls. Still another told us how a dozen girls, twelve or fifteen years old, had taken refuge in her house, hoping to escape detection, how they had been discovered, how two of them had been outraged and killed, because they had resisted, and how the others then submitted to their fate, white, shivering, their teeth chattering with fright.

These are but samples of what is related in every place where the Turks have advanced into the territory of the insurgents. On the other side we have tales of scarcely less horrible character. Here is an account of torture administered to a Turk: Mr. Pekó Palvoich, who has been appointed generalissimo of the Herzegovinian banditti, is probably one of the most eminent vivisectionists living, and has invariably hitherto chosen his “subjects,” amongst those noblest of animals tech-