

up in ignorance. If our sons and daughters want more education than this, and would profitably use it, they can always secure it at Academies and Colleges already provided and free to all for a very small fee.

If the Fredericton University is a fair specimen of what might be expected of a State Institution and if one such were established in Nova Scotia, instead of the present Colleges, we may congratulate ourselves that the experiment has been tried there instead of here.

The probabilities are that there would be even less of public sympathy surrounding a State institution here, than there, with the antecedents of Dalhousie, and the claims set up by its friends on its behalf.

**The Act of 1863 not acted upon.**

The Dalhousie Bill of 1863, provides that bodies and individuals may "endow" and "support" chairs in Dalhousie. The Endowments given to Acadia College are given "out and out" and have no conditions. Here we say fearlessly, and emphatically. The Presbyterian body has not complied with the Act of 1863—it has not "endowed" one chair. We repeat therefore, what we before said, that it is a sham. That body supports chairs, in the said College, but is prepared to leave at any moment. The rear is left open. The chance to retreat is perfect. Our neighbor of the *Witness* is not pleased with our remarks on the Munro Professorships, we therefore ask, Has Mr. Munro endowed a chair according to the intention and letter of the Act of 1863? Has he not put conditions in the bargain? If so, what are they? If Dalhousie fails to carry on an Arts Course, so as to satisfy the Presbyterians, will Mr. Munro's money go with the original funds of Dalhousie, or will it go to the Presbyterians? Give us the bargain. Let us see its wording. We published what we had learned on what we regarded as good authority. Let the *Witness* publish the bargain and that will settle the matter. Insinuation that we are away from the truth is not quite sufficient.

The Presbyterian *Witness* of last week devotes much space to our remarks on the College question. The burden of the editorials is bitter complaint of us and justification and praise of Presbyterians. The entire deliverance seems, in view of the potent facts of the case, to be grave irony from beginning to end. It is true, the face is sober, but it appears to conceal a humour, ready to burst in unrestrained laughter. So it seems. But we must take it for granted that the *Witness* is serious. Wonderful to behold.

With the present hold upon the Dalhousie—public—funds by the Presbyterians, grants to other Colleges follow as a certain sequence. Will this body take the responsibility of this matter on its own hands? Dalhousie compels grants to all the Colleges? Are the Presbyterians satisfied with the work done? Can the occupants of that College bear the responsibility of all the appropriations and the uses made of the money? On them rests the responsibility. They are the authors.

#### THE SITUATION AND ACADIA COLLEGE.

Since 1865 Acadia College has not asked for one dollar of public money. "Give us justice" has been her motto. If all grants are taken away, so let it be; if grants are given, let it be done fairly and in conformity to sound principles. "Let justice be done though the skies fall," has been the Acadia platform.

Last week we reviewed the past; this week we can view the present. Looking at the grants to Colleges now before Parliament from a population-basis, little could be said against the distribution so far as Roman Catholics, Episcopalians, and Methodists are concerned.

The disproportion in the arrangement is against the constituency of Acadia College. On this basis the amount to Acadia should be about \$2000 instead of \$1400. But what about the Presbyterians? The lion's share again; but the lion did not get so much over his share as he did from 1875 to 1880. Hinc illae lachrymae. The Roman Catholics are in number equal to the Presbyterians. They get \$2800.

Although the Presbyterians have the use of the Dalhousie College buildings, and the income from renting the basement, value about \$40,000, the interest of which would be say \$2,400; and the Castine Fund, say about \$8,000; then the use of the \$20,000 loan, the interest of which would be say \$1,200. Reckoning these three would make \$6,600 a year. Adding to this the sum of \$1,400, now proposed to be given

an institution were sanctioned by all parties. It is not a large grant for higher Education. It was money valuably spent, and if this principle of giving money at all is to be adopted, then we say let the Government do the thing decently and from principle. Let it be known that for the present this Province recognizes Denominational Colleges and desires that they shall be efficient."

#### THE TRUE INWARDNESS OF THE COLLEGE GRANT QUESTION.

Carlyle said, in writing the life of the noted Prussian monarch, that he tried to put some good into the character of Frederick the Great, but he found it hard work. In the business between the present occupants of Dalhousie College and the Legislature of the Province since 1863, we have looked in vain for anything that might be commanded as just, generous, or expedient. No surprise can be felt that it is so. What good could come of so bad a beginning? The past eighteen years seem to have been a game of chance between the Presbyterians and the Parliament of Nova Scotia. Its inception was not good, and what other result than the one so far gathered could be expected? In 1863, had justice and fair play inspired the movement, an open discussion should have been sought with the constituencies of all the Colleges, but this would have defeated the obtaining of the coveted prize.

The spirit that begat the scheme was alive and resolute in after years. It appeared in 1875. More than a decade passed, and it was the same as at first. With a soft step and an agile leap, it sprang upon the Legislature of 1875, and snatched for itself eighteen hundred dollars through the "Supplementary Estimates," just as the House was about to rise, leaving no time for discussion in Parliament, or for an expression of public sentiment from the country. In the following year an outraged sense of justice from the people, sent such a rebuke into the Legislature, that the difference between Acadia and Dalhousie of \$1,800 in 1875 was reduced to \$1,000. Notwithstanding a vigorous effort in the opposite direction, the Legislature has had the courage this year to bring the relative position of Acadia and Dalhousie in the matter of grants down to within about \$1,400 as they stood in 1865. This is adversity to the genius that would make a Provincial University by a policy of Caesarism. Who is responsible for keeping this standing temptation before the Governments and Legislatures of the country for the last eighteen years?

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would make their income \$8,000, with a population about equal to the Roman Catholics, and far out of proportion to that of all the other denominations. The population basis alone, however, is not a just criterion in this matter. The character and amount of work done is perhaps a no less important element to consider, and in this particular the Horton Academies may present their claim alongside of the Pictet Academy with all fairness, and are surely entitled to some consideration, but get nothing under the present arrangement. What next? Time, the great revealer, will duly answer this question.

#### ACADIA'S DUTY.

The grant question for the present is settled if the Bill pass as now before Parliament. The Governors meet this week at Wolfville. Action will probably be taken in the direction of Endowment, and enlargement in various ways. Now is the time to infuse life into the Convention Plan. Twenty-five per cent. coming from that source, will help to sustain Acadia in the loss of the \$1000 from the province grant. The people are, we doubt not, willing and able. Wise means and honest earnest endeavours will be necessary to save Acadia from suffering at the present time, and will result in lifting the Institutions to a higher plane, and infusing into them more life, in attracting to their halls a greater number of students, and in drawing the people to them in greater sympathy, and nobler efforts to endow and foster them.

The agitation for the sale of eggs by the pound has been revived. Some eggs weigh more to the dozen than others, yet they all bring the same price. This is not fair to the hens which produce the heavier and larger eggs, and which should be encouraged in their good work. No hen can feel that she is appreciated at her proper worth when she finds that her fine fruit brings no more in the market than the dwarfed products of some lazy neighbor.

Here's a piece of fine humour and sound logic. We know a company trading in eggs of a certain kind which gets \$8,000 dollars for its eggs, and complains bitterly, that five other companies sell their eggs at \$1,400. Indeed this company wants to sell its eggs at \$5,000, and then compel the other five companies to give away their fine eggs.

Dalhousie is to get for the coming year \$1,400 if the \$1,400 is taken from each of the others, thus leaving Dalhousie \$5,600 a dozen for her eggs. What will the other fowls say to this fortune of the great Shanghai?

Dalhousie is willing to give up the \$1,400 if the \$1,400 is taken from each of the others, thus leaving Dalhousie \$5,600 a dozen for her eggs. What will the other fowls say to this fortune of the great Shanghai?

The *Acadia Atheneum*, in referring to some criticisms on Rev. Mr. Steele by the *Dalhousie Gazette* says: "What an inherent horror Dalhousie has of the word *Presbyterian*, and how fondly it clings to that spectral adjective *undenominational*; sometimes even fancying that it can see the magic word *Provincial* glimmering in ghostly characters across the dingy college walls."

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE.—The numbers of *The Living Age* for the weeks ending March 12th and 19th respectively contain a number of interesting articles:

La Rocheoucauld, *Nineteenth Century*;

Trollope's "Life of Cicero," and George Eliot, *Blackwood*; George Eliot, *Cornhill*, *Candor versus Courtesy*, *Golden Hours*; *Graffiti* or wall-Scribblings, *Chambers' Journal*; Carlyle, *London Times*; *The Woods in Winter*, *Saturday Review*; American Literature and Boston Literature, *St. James's Gazette*; Hawk-catching in Holland, *Graphic*; The Talmud and the Bible, *Jewish Chronicle*; with instalments of "The Freres," "Don John," and Visited on the Children."

The subscription price (\$8) is low.

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