

Dr. MCGILL said he had listened with a great deal of interest to this discussion, and had been disappointed with the way in which it had been handled. He thought many hon. gentlemen were afraid to meet the question boldly, according to the dictates of their own consciences. He was pleased with the policy announced by the Treasurer. He would have been better pleased, however, if the Treasurer had not been quite so liberal. (Hear, hear). Still if the speech of the treasurer indicated the policy of the Government, he (Dr. McGill) endorsed that policy with his whole heart. He was glad we had a Government which had the courage to bring down such a measure, and he trusted they would have the courage to stand or fall by it. As a reason why grants should be continued, it had been urged that these institutions had done a great deal of good. He admitted that they had done so. And why should they not have done good, when they had been fostered so long by the government! Other institutions had done good, which had received no aid from the Government—Albert College, Belleville, for example. Our Common Schools and Grammar Schools were doing a great deal of good; and so they ought, for they got a very great deal of the public money. There was a cry against Toronto University, that it was a "godless" institution. Why was it so called? Because within its walls there were not taught the tenets of any particular denomination. The same hon. gentleman who called the institution "godless," asked, was aid to be withheld from institutions, because Christianity was taught within their walls—evidently implying that within the walls of Toronto University Christianity was not taught. He (Dr. McGill) asserted, without fear of successful contradiction, that there was not an institution, a church, or a building in Canada, within whose walls Christianity and its evidences were better taught than in Toronto University.

Mr. BOULTER said he felt much pleased when he saw these estimates brought down, with the heading "aid to Superior Education." He agreed with the Treasurer that grants should not be given to religious denominations. But he thought, at least for the present, they should be given to the colleges, although controlled by denominations. They did not interfere with the denominational tenets of the students. He attended one of them for three years, and he had been freely allowed to attend the church of his own denomination, which was different from that of the college. He believed these colleges were doing good—and a local good, which would not be done, if all students were compelled to come to the same place. He did not believe in a compulsory centralizing system. He thought there should be a great central University—an examining body to grant degrees to the students of the various colleges through the country, and entirely separated from every College—University College, or any other. He hoped the Government would