

leges should be affiliated. The Act of 1853 had provided for the establishment of the University of Toronto on its present basis, and the affiliation of the three denominational colleges which then existed, but unfortunately that Act had not been taken advantage of, and the question now was whether that scheme of affiliation should not be abandoned. His own view was that they must give up this idea of affiliation with the different colleges, and that the University of Toronto and University College, instead of being governed in the present two-headed system, should be made practically distinct, so that the University should attain a still higher standard than that which it held at present. The result would be a University which would be on the same high plane as those of the Old Country. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. SINCLAIR said it appeared from what had been heard to-night that the policy of the Opposition was to be to destroy University College and Upper Canada College; and if that was to be their policy, the idea of establishing a great Provincial University would have to be abandoned. He should, as an old Reformer, very much regret such an event, for it had always been the idea of that party that they should have one great Provincial University, instead of a number of denominational ones scattered throughout the country. In fact, he believed many Reformers would be willing to offer a monetary consideration to some of these smaller institutions for the surrender of their University powers. He did not know whether Upper Canada College was properly fulfilling its original intention, but he thought perhaps that it would be as well if the system of inspection which applied to collegiate institutions should be extended to Upper Canada College. He was a little surprised that the members for the city of Toronto should sit quietly in their seats and not reprove this insidious and ill-disguised attempt to destroy two institutions which, though of great importance to the whole country, were of special importance to Toronto. He had no sympathy with the feeling which prompted some people to look with disfavour upon any institution which was located, or had its origin, in Toronto; for he believed that the people of the Province should take a pride in those institutions which, like Upper Canada College, were provincial in their objects, and which were accordingly located in the capital of the Province. (Loud cheers.) There was no doubt that the people of Toronto were put to considerable expense for the benefit of such institutions; and he for one was bound to acknowledge that fact, and to admit that it was for the advantage of the country at large that they were located here. It had been said that Upper Canada College was purely local in its benefits; but he could testify from observation that was not the case, for at least two families in the village of Paisley had been in the custom of sending young men to that institution. (Hear, hear.) He regretted exceedingly that the attempt had been made to revive the old question of denominational colleges—for that was really the question which lay behind the motion of the hon. member for East Grey, for in that case every denomination could come forward with a claim for consideration.

Mr. BAXTER said that the hon. member for East Grey had not always taken the position he had assumed to-night, for he (Mr. Baxter) remembered the occasion on which that hon. gentleman had attended a dinner given to the Reform leaders, Messrs. Blake and McKellar. The feeling of the country was in favour of Upper Canada College and the University of Toronto, and of the important work which they were performing in the educational system of the Province. He spoke in high terms of the qualifications of Principal Cockburn for the position he held in Upper Canada College, and said that no one who knew that gentleman would deny his fitness for his present post, as he was admittedly one of the best teachers in the Province.

Mr. LAUDER contended that there was no inconsistency in his attending the dinner

referred to by the last speaker, and said that he had invariably been a consistent supporter of Mr. John Sandfield Macdonald. The speech he had made on the occasion the hon. member for Haldimand had alluded to was one that had not given very much satisfaction to the leaders of the party to which that hon. gentleman belonged. He (Mr. Lauder) had not attacked Upper Canada College in the present debate, and the Minister of Education had admitted that his remarks were perfectly fair and proper. He went on to say that in 1869 Mr. Christie, who was certainly no Tory, had moved for a Select Committee to consider the disendowment of the Upper Canada College, and had characterized the institution as an excrescence on our educational system. Mr. Christie had had the support of a good many leading Reformers in that motion, including the member for North Bruce.

Mr. SINCLAIR said he had taken exactly the same position then as now.

Mr. LAUDER said that the hon. gentleman should keep quiet. He was always ready to rise in his seat and deny any charge that was made against him, but the House knew very well that he was prepared, when his friends were in power, to swallow all the professions he had made in the days of Mr. John Sandfield Macdonald. That hon. gentleman would find, however, that the electors of North Bruce would not indorse his course.

Mr. SINCLAIR said he would call his hon. friend from East Toronto (Mr. Cameron) to bear witness that he (Mr. Sinclair) had held the same views in the past as he did now in regard to those institutions. With respect to opposing Mr. Sandfield Macdonald, he had never done so, but, on the contrary, had supported that gentleman in a great many matters.

Mr. CAMERON said his sentiments with reference to the University and Upper Canada College were well known. He had never wavered in his allegiance to those institutions. He believed it would be disastrous to the best interests of the country if the endowment of those institutions was interfered with (hear), and he should be sorry indeed to see the rapacious hand of the spoiler laid upon one dollar of the endowment. (Cheers.) He could testify that his hon. friend from North Bruce (Mr. Sinclair) had been most earnest in his efforts to maintain the Upper Canada College in its entirety. (Cheers.) He presumed it would be within the recollection of hon. gentlemen opposite that at one time an Act was passed which provided that the educational interests would be better served by applying a portion of the funds of the endowment subsidy towards the support of the Upper Canada College and certain other educational institutions of the country, and what was charged as a robbery of this fund was an appropriation taken at that time for this purpose under the legal sanction of an Act of Parliament. He could see the force of the argument that at one time the moneys of the University having been taken for the purposes of the Upper Canada College, and that institution being now in a more flourishing condition, there might be some reason for replacing that money back into the treasury of the University and distributing what surplus there was among other educational institutions. (Hear, hear.) The object of the motion was to get a return which it was unquestionable they ought to have. His hon. friend on his left (Mr. Macdougall) had not sat long enough beside him to become thoroughly imbued with Conservative principles. (Laughter.) In times past the hon. gentleman had professed to be a thorough Reformer, and he only deserted hon. members opposite when they deserted their principles (Ministerial cheers), and he came over to the Opposition side because he found more honesty of purpose in their views. (Laughter.)

Mr. HODGINS—His education is not finished yet. (Laughter.)

Mr. CAMERON had no doubt that in good time his hon. friend would become as earnest a Conservative as himself. If, however, he (Mr. Macdougall) had learned true Con-