

## No. X.

### An Act to establish and endow a College for Women within the University of Sydney. [21st September, 1889.]

WOMEN'S COLLEGE  
UNIVERSITY  
ENDOWMENT.

**W**HEREAS by the Act eighteenth Victoria number thirty-seven, Preamble, after reciting that it was expedient to encourage and assist the establishment of Colleges within the University of Sydney, in which Colleges systematic religious instruction and domestic supervision, with efficient assistance in preparing for the University lectures and examinations should be provided for students of the University, it is enacted that when any College shall have been established and incorporated by an Act of the Governor and Council as a College within the said University, and the founders or subscribers to such College shall have complied with the conditions mentioned in the second section of that Act, such College shall be entitled to the endowments thereafter severally mentioned: And whereas several Colleges connected with as many religious denominations were afterwards so established and incorporated, and brought within the benefit of the said Act: And whereas a by-law of the University was passed in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty-one, admitting women to all the rights, advantages, and privileges of the University equally with men; and by the "University Extension Act of 1884," it was enacted that the benefits and advantages of the University and the provisions of the Acts relating thereto shall be deemed to extend in all respects to women equally with men. And whereas in pursuance of such by-law and lastmentioned Act women have been admitted as students and as graduates of the University—and there are at present twenty-two such students, and a large increase in their number is expected and would probably be encouraged by the establishment of a University College of residence for women: And whereas at a public meeting held in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty-seven, resolutions were passed to the effect that it was desirable to establish such College on the basis of the "General Affiliated Colleges Act" (being the Act first abovementioned), but at a lower scale of cost to subscribers and to the public revenue than therein contemplated, and that (by reason of the impracticability of providing for the establishment of several Women's Colleges attached to separate religious denominations, whether otherwise desirable or not so) the systematic religious education required by that Act for the Colleges therein contemplated, should in the case of the proposed College for Women be subject to the following provisions, that is to say:—That no religious catechism or formulary, which is distinctive of any particular denomination, should be taught, and no attempt should be made

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made to attach students to any particular denomination, and that any student should be excused from attendance upon religious instruction or religious observances on express declaration that she has conscientious objections thereto. And whereas the Senate of the University has recently resolved that it will receive the proposed College for Women into affiliation in the event of its being established and endowed by the authority of Parliament, and that it will dedicate to it a site for necessary buildings and recreation grounds, provided that the College be established and endowed within four years. And whereas it was agreed at the said public meeting that the governing body of the College should be composed of twelve members, of whom not less than four should be women, to be elected in the first instance by the subscribers, and subsequently in such manner as might be determined, together with two members of the Senate of the University, to be appointed by the Senate from time to time. And whereas considerable, but not yet sufficient, private contributions have already been made towards the establishment of the said College, under and in furtherance of the said resolutions. And whereas it is expedient to provide by law for the establishment, incorporation, and endowment of such College upon the basis hereinbefore mentioned, and in manner hereinafter contained. Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of New South Wales in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

Incorporation.

1. So soon as it shall be made to appear to the satisfaction of the Governor that a sum not less than five thousand pounds has been subscribed for or otherwise contributed towards the endowment of the proposed College for Women, and that the amount has either been paid or secured to be paid for that purpose in accordance with section two of the said first recited Act, and that twelve elected Councillors for the government of the said College in accordance with the constitution thereof, as in this Act set forth, have been duly elected, the same shall be notified by proclamation in the New South Wales *Government Gazette*, under the hand of the Governor; and immediately upon such notification and from thenceforth the Principal and Councillors of the said College shall be, and they are hereby constituted, a body politic and corporate by the name of the Council of The Women's College, by which name the said incorporated body shall have perpetual succession and a common seal, and shall sue and be sued or otherwise appear and answer and be answered, and may take and hold to them and to their successors by grant, will, or otherwise, in perpetuity, or for any term of life or years, as well chattels and other personal property, as lands, buildings, and hereditaments, and may alien or otherwise dispose of or demise the same or any part thereof, other than the land which may be granted to it as a site for buildings and recreation grounds for such College, and also shall or may do all other things incident or appertaining to a body politic and corporate, and there shall be vested in the said Council the government in all respects of the said College and all matters relating thereto.

Endowment for building.

2. Upon such incorporation there shall be paid out of the Consolidated Revenue in aid of the buildings of the said College, a sum or sums not exceeding five thousand pounds in the whole, nor more than shall have been from time to time actually expended by the College out of the subscribed funds for the purpose of building, which said sum or sums shall be paid by the Treasurer of the Colony under warrants signed by the Governor.

Endowment for Principal.

3. There shall also be paid in like manner out of the said Consolidated Revenue annually to such incorporated College in perpetuity, but

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but upon the conditions named in the fifth and sixth sections of the said first recited Act, a sum of five hundred pounds for the use of and as salary to the Principal of the said College or in aid of such salary.

4. The said body politic and corporate shall consist of twelve elected Councillors and two *ex officio* Councillors and a Principal, as hereinafter mentioned; and for the purpose of the first appointment of elected Councillors a meeting of the subscribers and contributors to the said Endowment Fund shall be convened by the Chancellor of the University, and at such meeting, or at an adjournment thereof, there shall be elected twelve Councillors of the College, of whom at least four shall be women, and who shall be elected by the subscribers and contributors to the said fund and the executors or administrators of any deceased person who shall have bequeathed or given in his life time any sum of money towards the said College, being; each subscriber or contributor (including such executors and administrators) of one pound paid, to have one vote; every subscriber of ten pounds to have two votes; every subscriber of twenty-five pounds to have three votes; every subscriber of fifty pounds to have four votes; and every subscriber of one hundred pounds or upwards to have five votes. All such votes shall be given by ballot; and subscribers not present at any meeting for such purpose who may authorize in writing any other subscriber shall be allowed to vote by proxy.

Constitution of Council.

5. The Councillors first elected shall retire in manner following, that is to say, four, to be selected by ballot, at the end of four years; four, selected in like manner, at the end of five years; and the remaining four at the end of six years: but such retiring Councillors shall in all cases be eligible for re-election, and they shall respectively continue in office until their successors shall have been elected.

Retirement of Councillors.

6. All future vacancies in the Council shall be filled up in such manner as the Council shall appoint by the remaining Councillors and such members of the College as shall have become graduates of the University of at least three years' standing, and of the full age of twenty-one, who shall continue on the books of the College. Provided that all such elections shall be for the term of five years only, subject to eligibility for re-election; and that all casual vacancies by death, resignation, or other cause determined by the by-laws of the Corporation, shall be filled up for the residue only of the term of office held by the Councillor in respect of whom any such vacancy shall have arisen; but with like eligibility for re-election.

Election to vacancies.

7. The Senate of the University shall from time to time nominate two members of the Senate to be Councillors of the said College, and such persons so nominated shall be *ex officio* members of the Council during the periods for which they shall respectively be so nominated. The Principal shall also be a member of the said Council *ex officio*.

Senate of University to appoint two members.

Principal to be a member.

8. Five members shall constitute a quorum of the Council, subject to such conditions as to the due convening of meetings of the Council as shall have been determined on. Provided that no temporary vacancy in the office of Principal, or in the number of Councillors, shall be deemed in any way to affect the constitution of the College or its privileges or status as an incorporated body.

Quorum.

Casual vacancies not to prejudice.

9. The Chancellor of the University, or, in his absence, the Vice-Chancellor, shall be the visitor of the College, and shall have the right to visit the College at any time, and with or without some other member of the University Senate, to examine the manner in which it is conducted, and to see that its laws and regulations are duly observed and executed, and shall possess all other such powers as by law appertain to the office of visitor to a College.

Visitor.

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*Public Works (Committees Remuneration).*

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Purposes of College.

10. The College shall provide residence and domestic supervision for women students of the University of all religious denominations without any distinction whatever, together with efficient tutorial assistance in their preparation for the University lectures and examinations.

Religious Instruction.

11. The systematic religious instruction required to be imparted to students by the "General Affiliated Colleges Act" shall, in the case of the proposed College for women be subject to the following provisions, that is to say :—That no religious catechism or formulary, which is distinctive of any particular denomination, shall be taught, and no attempt shall be made to attach students to any particular denomination, and that any student shall be excused from attendance upon religious instruction or religious observances on express declaration that she has conscientious objections thereto.

Principal.

12. The Principal, who shall be a woman, shall be appointed by the Council, and shall be liable to removal or suspension for sufficient cause by the Council, subject to an appeal to the visitor; and shall, subject to the by-laws and rules of the College, and to the directions of the Council, have the general superintendence and control of the students and of the institution.

Students of the College to become members of the University, and attend lectures.

13. All students in such College, not already matriculated, shall, so soon as shall be practicable, matriculate in the University, and shall continue to be members thereof, and submit to, and be subject to the discipline thereof; and shall be required duly to attend the lectures of the University in those subjects, an examination and proficiency in which are required for degrees, with the exception, if thought fit by any such student, of the lectures on Ethics, Metaphysics, and Modern History.

By-laws.

14. The Council of the College shall have power, from time to time, to make and establish all such by-laws and rules for carrying into effect the several provisions and objects of this Act as to the said Council shall seem expedient, and such by-laws from time to time to alter and revoke, or to substitute others in their places. Provided that every such by-law and rule shall be transmitted to the Governor within thirty days after being made, to be by him laid before the Houses of Parliament of the Colony, so soon as conveniently may be thereafter.

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