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## McGill Fortnightly.

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## EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

### THE NEW LIBRARY.

The Students of McGill may be pardoned if they exhibit a somewhat extravagant joy in the possession of their new Library, when even those to whom it means nothing more than a fine addition to the University and to our city feel a thrill of pride in the mere beauty of the building itself.

No one will accuse us of disloyalty to our Alma Mater or her surroundings if we remark that, although under ordinary circumstances the old Library might have answered our requirements, yet when filled to overflowing with readers it was scarcely the place to induce thought or reflection except in their mildest form, namely, dreams.

But now that the Library has been formally opened, we are waiting with what patience we can command the invitation to come in and "Hold high converse with the mighty dead."

Since the beginning of this session the loss of library privileges has been keenly felt, and if there is any truth in the saying, "Out of sight out of mind," we have certainly had an opportunity to be off with the old love before we are on with the new.

The rousing cheers and hearty applause from the boys in the gallery, that greeted Mr. Redpath when he

rose to present the Library formally to the University, were an expression of the grateful sentiments which animate the hearts of every son and daughter of McGill. Thanks to Mr. Redpath's generosity, we feel that amid such pleasant surroundings, the task of transferring to our minds some of that "potential energy" now lying on the book-shelves will not be so arduous; and our earnest hope is that the result will be apparent in the increased "kinetic energy," not only of our essays but of our work in general. We highly appreciate the special gift of Mrs. Redpath—the two beautiful stained windows at either end of the reading room.

It is needless to say that at McGill, as everywhere else in our Dominion, Lord and Lady Aberdeen have won the love and esteem of all. His Excellency's evident relief, after being assured that he was *all right*, was extremely gratifying to those who offered the compliment.

It only remains to be added that the brilliant conversation of the evening was a fitting close to proceedings fraught with such importance to our University, a fitting close to such an auspicious event as the gifting of the Redpath Library to McGill.

### THE UNION CLUB.

The idea of instituting a Union Club in McGill is one that should attract general attention.

With regard to the advantages to be gained from such an institution there cannot be two opinions. It would be of the greatest benefit to the students.

For some years back there have been vague ideas of something of this kind floating about. One of our great needs, for instance, is a dining hall, where the students could get a good meal at moderate cost. A very large proportion of the students in Medicine and Science, and a fair number in Arts, would regard such a place as a great boon, for they are compelled to get meals at cafés, boarding-houses, and the like. Such places are not always convenient or desirable, and if there was such an institution as a comfortable restaurant under the ægis of the University, it would without doubt be well patronized.

Further, there is no common meeting-ground for the students in the present state of affairs, and it is quite possible for one-half of the students to be unaware of the existence, or at least the mode of existence, of the other half.

Much of this isolation would be overcome had