

# THE MCGILL GAZETTE.

MONTREAL, FEBRUARY 19TH, 1879.

## GRADUATING DINNER.

THE graduating class in Medicine has this year initiated a new movement, which we have no doubt in time will be one of the greatest *fête* days in connection with the University,—we mean a graduating dinner. This is an American idea, but we must not condemn it on that account, as many of the customs and manners of our cousins across the 45th parallel are worthy of imitation by us here. Hitherto after convocation the young graduates in Medicine used to precipitately hasten their departure from the city, perhaps without having an opportunity of taking their last adieus of friends who had for four years at least been battling shoulder to shoulder in the great struggle necessary to enter the temple of Esculapius; and this, although not always thought of in the moment of excitement and triumph, was often a source of worry to their feelings in after years. However, this will not be the case in future, if we may judge from the spirit that now animates the minds of the students, from the callow Freshman to the almost fully fledged Final. During the month of January, at a meeting of the Final class, steps were taken to have a grand reunion of the graduates after convocation. Quite a considerable amount of enthusiasm was displayed at this meeting, and the speeches which the occasion drew forth were of such a character as to leave no doubt of the earnestness which pervaded the whole assembly. It was proposed to have the Final dinner on such a scale as would make it agreeable both to the intellect and the senses, a feast of reason and flow of soul; and to make this a reality, a historian, a prophet, and a poet were appointed by the class, who were to be present at the dinner, for the purpose of elevating the minds of the young disciples of

Galen above the more vulgar things of sense during the progress of the festivities. The three elected to do this important duty were Messrs. W. R. Sutherland, J. L. Brown, and W. J. McGuigan, the first named gentleman being the historian, the second the prophet, and the third the poet. These latter gentlemen were also appointed a committee to make arrangements for the dinner, and it is to be hoped they will leave no stone unturned to bring it to a successful conclusion. It is too bad that these gentlemen were not appointed earlier in the session—say at the time for electing the valedictorian, as it would have enabled them to do something worthy of such an important epoch in their own career, and in the career of the Medical School of McGill University. These men are now undergoing a severe mental strain preparing themselves for the final examination, and the literary cells of their intellectual centres must be rather dormant at present, and we fear very much that the historian's glowing pictures will fade away from before his mind's eye, in the pursuit of some specimen of morbid anatomy that may be intruding itself into his company at the most unseasonable times, while the poor prophet and the poet will wish in vain for the "fine frenzy" which is necessary for either to make himself useful at the coming festival. However, let us not discourage the movement for such reasons as these. We must make a beginning, and now is as good a time as any. Let us augur well for the success of this and all future graduating dinners, and may they flourish like the green bay tree.

THE meetings which from time to time are held by the Law students, are as noisy as of late years, and they certainly have not gone back on their reputation for disorder. The only reason that appears possible of statement in explanation of this is that nearly every law