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Editorials.

It speaks well for the future of higher education in the Province of Quebec that those in whose power its furtherance lies, assist it from time to time in an open-hearted and trustful manner. Many of the men who have risen to leading positions in the commercial world have, when bequeathing their estates, not forgotten that the Dominion possesses an intellectual side, which needs more recognition than has hitherto been accorded to it, and have done what they could to build up that part of a nation whose lasting greatness proceeds. Among these was Mr. David Greenshields, whose munificent gift to McGill College merits the gratitude of everyone that has the welfare of our country at heart. His bequest of \$40,000 is a timely one indeed, especially as it is subject only to such conditions, as may be agreed on by his executors and the Governors. The liberal spirit of the donor is evinced by the freedom from any regulation or restraint likely to prevent the best use of his benefaction, and we believe that in addition to such candid dealing, he made arrangements for the payment of interest on the above-mentioned sum from the day of his death. It is not flattery, but merely simple truth and justice to say that the benefits which will result from such extension of University influence as Mr. David Greenshields has created, are incalculable. Those

who are intimately acquainted with the difficulties under which McGill College has of late been labouring, and with the quality and energy of the work carried on within its walls, will feel heightened respect for one who could appreciate the value of an efficient educational centre, and could foresee the part that learning will have to play in Canada before she can be truly called great in every sense of the word. We are not for a moment supposing that any number of bequests can produce a corresponding number of geniuses, whose names will bring honour to their country from far and wide. Geniuses are uncommon, as well in Universities as in non-academic paths, but every helper of thorough instruction adds to the quota of those who are taught to form habits of thought. The sole aim of reasonable and rational Universities is, not to send men forth into life's work with their heads transformed into memory-boxes, filled with most incongruous items, often comparatively useless, and not seldom very badly arranged, but to enable men to think clearly, perhaps powerfully, on the various topics which meet them from day to day, and to grasp any mental problem, small or great, in a large and liberal spirit. Individual centres of vast wealth do not tend to national greatness, but an increase of those people who can appreciate the complexities of social and political matters and, thus appreciating, can throw unselfish earnestness into social and political development, furthers national stability as nothing else can further it. Given respect for intellectual power, intellectual power will arise and earn the reward whereby it exists. We have been told—and there is some truth in the remark—that were the circle of those who take a genuine interest in Canadian literature a large one, Canadian authors would be forthcoming. This state of things can be remedied but slowly: still one of the remedies consists in the extension of—let us write the much-abused word—culture. We repeat that the donor of our latest endowment was sensible of this, and in the name of McGill College the MCGILL UNIVERSITY GAZETTE is proud to offer this tribute of esteem to his memory, of sympathy to his relatives.

It is by no means our ambition to be always calling attention to grievances and abuses, and to be forever throwing schemes of reform broadcast upon our innocent readers. A chronic discontent is perhaps the most miserable of human states, miserable for the subject of the disease and just as miserable for those who are doomed to listen to him. But there is any subject on which it is allowable for us to descant freely and endlessly, it is the deficient provision which exists in this province, and indeed we may say in the Dominion generally, for enabling young men to obtain the highest class of education. It is hard to suppress a smile, a sardonic smile, when we think of the unreasonable stand taken by some worthy and no doubt well-meaning people a short time ago, on the question of bringing teachers from the other side of the Atlantic. With selfish conceit and little patriotism they raised a cry of "None but Canadians need apply". They seemed to think that the protective policy which has worked so well