

THE
FUTURE OF MCGILL UNIVERSITY.

ANNUAL UNIVERSITY LECTURE,
SESSION 1880-81.

BY PRINCIPAL DAWSON, LL.D., F.R.S.

According to a regulation of the University, it is the duty of the Principal to deliver a lecture on a general educational subject as early as may be in each session, but it is understood that this duty may be discharged by the substitution—with the consent of the Corporation—of some other member of the University or some distinguished stranger. In the present session the lecture was to have been delivered by one to whom we have often listened with pleasure, our lamented friend the late Judge Dunkin.

The subject which he had selected was one most suitable to him and most interesting to us,—the early history of McGill College. Unfortunately, however, continued ill-health rendered it necessary for him to ask for a postponement from the usual time in November until January, and now we have to mourn his death; and this, just when we had hoped that, relieved from public duties, he might in the evening of his days have devoted himself more fully to those educational interests which he loved so well. Some portion of what he would have told us, had he been spared to lecture, has already appeared in his elaborate Report on the Education of Canada, prepared for Lord Durham's Commission in 1839, one of the most important educational papers