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J. H. Leacock

(F 2610)

ADDRESS
OF
The Honorable C. D. DAY, LL.D.,
CHANCELLOR OF MCGILL UNIVERSITY,

Delivered at the Entertainment given to Benefactors,
December 20th, 1870.

It is some thirteen years since I had the satisfaction of addressing the friends of the University on an occasion precisely similar to this, so that history repeats itself in little things as in great. Then, as now, an effort was in progress for obtaining the means of increased usefulness by an appeal on behalf of the great cause of education. Then, as now, considerable success had been attained in the work, and a social gathering like the present one was deemed to be a graceful and pleasant mode of acknowledging, thankfully, what had been done, and of promoting prolonged and zealous exertion for what was still required. It is unnecessary to detail the result of the effort then made. We all know how satisfactory it was, and how well it witnessed to the intelligence and liberality of our goodly city. I have not the inhuman design of inflicting upon people who have been invited to pass the evening here in social enjoyment, a long and solemn address; but I wish to lay before you in familiar words a statement which shall be plain and brief. Whatever I may say beyond this statement, will be, in substance, pretty much what I said before; possibly, after the manner of history, repeating myself. At all events, I now repeat to you, ladies and gentlemen, in the name of the University, a welcome and thanks for your presence here, not less cordial than were given to that audience of thirteen years ago. Early in the present year, the Board of Governors having long felt the inadequacy of the pecuniary means of the University for keeping pace with the growing wants of the higher education in the Province, determined upon a public appeal for aid. They accordingly issued a circular, setting forth briefly the urgent reasons for such appeal.

In response to this invitation, a meeting was held in the College