

versity to fill that office. Already, therefore, the separate classes have done good service to the faculty of arts, and next year, or the year after, they may be the means of equally benefiting another important branch of study in connection with that faculty. The whole of the lecturers engaged report most favorably of the progress of the class, and it is hoped that the students will make a good appearance in the Christmas examinations, though it must be borne in mind that owing to the shortness of notice many of them were not so well prepared as they might otherwise have been.

It will be observed that the classes for women constitute a "special course" in the faculty of arts. It was one of the wise provisions of the framers of our statutes that they arranged for special courses in arts. Our present faculty of applied science began in this way, and so continued till it could stand alone. The advantages of the arrangement are, that a special course comes at once under the operation of all the machinery of the faculty. Its regulations are all ready made, and the appliances for carrying on its ordinary work are at hand, so that means being provided, a new branch of the university may at once start into existence with no derangement of the other work. It is an eminent advantage of McGill that its organization is so perfect that it can with a promptitude not usual in institutions of higher education thus enter on any new field of usefulness opened to it. It is easy to sneer at the smallness of our staff in arts, but a small body of able and earnest men thoroughly competent and well appointed, may be worth many times the number of mere irregulars and stragglers. In this respect the faculty of arts of McGill may claim special honour for what it has shown itself willing and able to do in organizing so successfully and without the slightest inconvenience our classes for women.

So far we have gone, and can go through

this session and the next, without touching any of the general revenue of the university, and with the advantage of securing an assistant in classics whose salary will be shared in due proportion by the Donald A. Smith endowment. Let it be observed here, that all the proceedings above referred to were arranged for in September, and before the appearance of my report on the subject of the higher education of women.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CORPORATION IN OCTOBER, 1884.

We may now consider the aspect which the matter presented at the regular meeting of the corporation in October. At this meeting report was made by the Faculty of Arts of the regulations which it had framed, and the arrangements already referred to in relation to the classes for women. The principal then presented the report which he had prepared by request of the corporation, and which had been previously submitted to the committee appointed to obtain facts and statistics, which committee had completed its labours by requesting that the report should be printed for the information of the corporation. After the reading of the report and discussion of the matters contained in it, in their bearing both on the action already taken and the work to be done in the future, it was finally suggested that, as the classes of the junior years were now under the management of the Faculty of Arts as a special course, the preliminary consideration of the steps to be taken and regulations required for completing this course belonged of right to that faculty, and should be referred to it. It was accordingly resolved that the corporation, being desirous to continue the education of the women who had entered its classes, up to the final examinations, "the Faculty of Arts be requested as soon as possible to report on the best methods of effecting this, either in separate or mixed classes." There was nothing special or unusual or in