

your bright imaginations what no pen could adequately describe.

I must not close without some reference to the "cracker." I think we had not been well under way for Savannah, before I noticed that this class was constantly forming the subject of conversation amongst those on board our steamer, and since landing the name has become as familiar to me as sweet potatoes and pumpkin pies. When a person speaks of a "cracker," he always does so in a contemptuous tone. The word represents to the northern mind, the essence of all that is lazy and unprogressive in humanity; it calls up visions of pork and beans, black bread and sweet potatoes; while cutaneous concretions (that is a good expression) are not wanting from the picture. The "cracker" is the original settler of this country, who once cracked the whip over the backs of the poor colored people,—I was going to say niggers, but one has to be careful not to insult the majority of the population. The cracker is brown and wizened in appearance, and specimens may be seen at any of the railway stations, holding up the house, or trying to keep cool on the nearest available seat. They do not congregate to work nor to drink beer, (in this country prohibition reigns) but to "swap lies," as the expression is.

And now let me say in conclusion, Mr. Editor, if you can dispose of these few notes for a guide-book, you may do so, as I feel sure that there are not more misrepresentations and evidences of imperfect knowledge of the country in them than are to be found in the average guide-book, and the style, I flatter myself, is not altogether unsuitable. Under any circumstances, kindly keep my name a secret, else I shall be obliged to leave this land of sunshine for ever.

February 3rd, 1887.

T. S. H.

McGill News.

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL AT MCGILL.

His Excellency the Governor-General and Lady Lansdowne paid a visit to McGill university at 3.30 p.m. yesterday. They were received by the chancellor and principal at the door of the William Molson hall, and proceeded, followed by the members of the convocation to the convocation room, where the students were already assembled and received the procession with the national anthem and with college songs. The address to His Excellency, on behalf of the university, was then read as follows:—

To the Right Honorable and Most Noble the Marquis of Lansdowne, Governor-General of Canada. May it please Your Excellency:

The governors, principal and fellows of McGill university and the members of its convocation have much pleasure in again welcoming Your Excellency within its walls.

In doing so they have not only the honor and privilege of receiving Your Excellency as the official visitor of the university under its royal charter and as the representative of Her Most Gracious Majesty, but of expressing their gratitude for the interest which you have ever manifested in the cause of education, more especially in connection with this university, and for the encouragement given to important branches of learning by the medals presented by Your Excellency.

It is a matter for congratulation and thankfulness that since we last had the honor of presenting an address to Your Excellency, while the number of our students and the efficiency of our staffs of instructors in McGill college, and its affiliated institutions have increased, several important endowments and benefactions have been received by the university, enabling it among other things to extend the benefits of the higher academical education to women as well as to men, to enlarge the class-rooms and laboratories for the faculties of arts and applied science, and to erect extensive new buildings for its faculty of medicine.

The university has thus largely shared in the growth and prosperity of the Dominion under the administration of Your Excellency.

It will be our earnest effort in the future as it has been in the past to merit the approval of our visitor and the support of the friends of education, and to employ as advantageously as possible the means committed to our trust in the advancement of that higher academical and professional education so important to the welfare of all classes of the people.

We beg leave to tender to Your Excellency our sincere good wishes that under God's blessing the greatest prosperity and success may continue to attend your administration of the affairs of this country.

We also beg leave respectfully to offer our most cordial good wishes for the welfare and happiness of the Marchioness of Lansdowne, and of Your Excellency's family.

Signed on behalf of the
University,

JAMES FERRIER,
Chancellor.

McGill College, Montreal, 22nd February, 1887.

His Excellency replied as follows:—

MR. FERRIER, HONORABLE MEMBERS OF CONVOCATION, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.—After living for the last fortnight under the shadow of the McGill University, I am very glad to find myself again within its walls, and to listen once more to the kindly terms in which you have been good enough to speak of my official connection with you as visitor of the University. Before I refer to the satisfactory and reassuring statements contained in your address, I must be allowed to express my deep regret at the loss which the Board of Governors has sustained since I was here last by the death of more than one of its best known members. Archdeacon Leach, who, if I mistake not, was here as your Vice-Principal to receive me in 1884, is but one of several distinguished men who have since passed away, leaving to the University—in the administration of which they took so important a part—names which will be ever remembered with honour and affection by its members. (Applause.) It affords me much pleasure to be able to congratulate you on the encouraging report which you are able to give of the position and prospects of the University and to learn that you are able to describe it as sharing in the general growth and prosperity of the Dominion. (Applause.) There is another statement in the address to which I listened with satisfaction. It is not too much to say that McGill University owes its existence to the generosity of your wealthy citizens, and it is satisfactory to reflect that, during the last three years, the stream of their liberality has continued to flow, and has enabled you to make important additions to your buildings, and to the equipment necessary for the prosecution of the different studies to which they are devoted. (Loud applause.) The fact that the increase in the number of your students is steadily sustained shows that, as an educational institution, you have not ceased to command the confidence of the public. I feel no doubt that you will