

to be left in abeyance as I am not prepared to make a present of it to Mc Gill just yet .

I have all along intended that it shall go there in the end , either by my will , or by directions to my children, You see Sir Arthur, that chair has been part of my life for many years, it was in my room on University st in the house now used by the Theological College , before my marriage, and before that in my Father's Library , in the house on University St, where you have been holding Law lectures , my Nephew Brooke Claxton having received his course in Law there . My Father owned both those houses.

Our garden backed upon that of Sir William Dawson 's and I well remember him walking about in the sun admiring his flowers , stopping and meditating , with his hands clasped at his back , I knew his family , S^r George; William; Rankin, & his daughter , Mrs Harrington,

My school boy days were spent in and around the " College grounds" as we used to call them , from playing Lacrosse on the Western portion, to hunting sand larks and swallows in the sandy mounds which fringed the University st side . Eating Haws and hiding among the Haw trees of the North end , and being chased by old " Hamilton " the Porter when we knocked down butter nuts from the fine old trees which faced the Medical Building.

When the Medical Faculty decided to erect a college on the grounds adjoining the Mc Gill building (there was only one in those days) the neighborhood were up in arms at the idea of bringing those Hoodlums up there , they evidently had a bad reputation for noisey pranks , but the result was not so , and my Father entertained the graduating class at dinner at the end of the first year, in recognition of their gentlemanly behaviour.

Among that Class were George Ross and William Osler and I think Frank Shepherd , The former was afterwards my family Physician, and Osler my Father's. Both splendid men , and among Mc Gill's shining lights.

You can see Sir Arthur from all this that I have a warm spot in my heart for Mc Gill , and you may rest assured that the Mc Gill chair will ultimately find a resting place in the University . I can never succeed you , but you may succeed me in the chair.

I use it daily , doze in it, read in it, and also meditate in it , and my Grand-son been photographed in it, and if I can get a copy will enclose it for you to see .

My home is full of sentiment , every stick of furniture was made in Montreal for me before my marriage , or for my Father many years previous, the pictures on the walls, from the old Fort at Chambly to the wharf at Murray Bay , my parchments , countersigned "Dufferin" appointing me Ensign and Lieutenant in the First Bat^y Prince of Wales Regt , now the Grenadier Guards I think, my sword hanging among my collection of canes, Pictures of the carnival at Victoria Rink 1870 and Opening of the Caledonia Curling rink 1870 , with all the men of that day watching , including H.R.H. Prince Arthur , now Duke of Connaught , (whom perhaps you were named after) show that although twenty four years a resident of this State, I am still a British Subject , and sleep with a Union Jack over my head.

I have rambled on too far Sir Arthur and will conclude with best wishes for old Mc Gill , and hoping that we will be able to manage that little scheme referred to in the first part of my letter , I am

Yours faithfully.

Fred Claxton

N.B. No prints available of the chair, will have them printed and send to you later.