

500 students and an income adequate to one moderate college, we find ourselves doing work that is spread over all the departments which belong to the greatest universities. Of course it follows that much is imperfectly done, that time and effort are wasted in hurrying from one field of labor to another as exigency demands, that constant watchfulness is needed to prevent some agency from breaking down; and finally, that in working for the future it is often necessary to appear to be attending to one interest at the expense of another, and that in spite of all our efforts we may have temporarily to abandon some promising position which has become untenable, but upon which, nevertheless, we must continue to have a watchful eye, and be ready to reoccupy it when circumstances permit. The whole educational history of McGill is thus like a hard fought battle, in which, with a too slender force, we have been defending or attacking widely extended positions.

Looking abroad over the field as it presents itself after a conflict of twenty-five years, we can congratulate ourselves on few very brilliant achievements; but we have at least held our own, and made some progress, and often when every avenue seemed closed an unexpected deliverance has come. At this moment we appear to have reached a standing point in all except a few directions. Our endowments seem to have reached their limit of productiveness. Each of our Faculties has attained to a certain degree of completeness, and is doing its work in a respectable and efficient manner, but has little prospect of advance beyond this. Our number of students is relatively to the population we represent somewhat large, but has not materially increased for several years. Yet we cannot remain stationary without falling back, and we cannot advance along any of a number of inviting lines without greater means. It would be easy to give illustrations of this. In the Faculty of Arts, for example, we require much subdivision of chairs. We should have separate professorships of Greek and Latin, of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, of Geology and Biology, of History and English Literature, and our professors of Modern Languages should not be hampered with other duties than those of the College. In this Faculty also we require more aids to students in the form of exhibitions and scholarships. To do what I have thus indicated would perhaps double our expenditure, but in a few years I