

qualification now. When that time arrives the present difficulty encountered by many graduates of the University, seeking for the diploma of the Normal School, would perforce disappear. At present the position of a graduate, who has been so unfortunate as not to take second class standing in Latin and Greek at the intermediate examination, and has dropped one or both of these subjects during the two last years, is anomalous indeed. Under the present regulations a graduate may even be a medallist and distinguished in many respects, but lacking this imaginary requisite, although perfectly eligible, at least educationally in the neighboring provinces, and even in the United States, is debarred from obtaining the diploma necessary for qualification as a teacher in the public schools of his native province. This has proven a pernicious and formidable obstacle since the new regulations have come into force, and the result has been that more than one graduate, who would have proven a credit to the teaching body, has been compelled to turn to other employments, and this year more than one fourth-year student are in the same position. When so much is being said and written concerning the value of the B.A. degree as an equivalent to the preliminary examination exacted by the learned professions, may it not be *à propos* to suggest that this degree be recognized to its fullest in this profession, entrance to which is not complicated by the difference of religion and the early training of the candidates.

#### CANADIAN HISTORY.

If McGill is slow in awaking to her responsibility as a Canadian University, it is not for any lack of patriotic enterprise in her environs. Since our last editorial on this subject, we notice with pleasure the announcement of a new periodical published in connection with the Society for Historical Studies in this city—"Canadiana: a Collection of Canadian Notes"—in reference to which "Laclede" says—"Canadiana is a sign of the times. Here, again, Montreal is leading the country in a broad field of literature.

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It will be devoted to the by-paths, the findings, the scraps, the discoveries of our inexhaustible treasures of history. An undertaking equally commendable is the formation of a Society for the Study of Canadian Literature, which aims to enroll among its members all who are in any way interested in the subject, whether authors or not, and the inaugural address of which was delivered on Wednesday, Jan. 23rd.

It is a pity that movements such as these should not be aided and encouraged by that which is looked

upon as the city's intellectual centre—the University. Many of our graduates are working hard in Canada's cause, and these are they who feel sufficient interest in the land of their birth or adoption to become intelligently acquainted with what concerns her. But there are others—we fear, the majority—whose ignorance begets indifference, and had these been given the advantage of a thorough course at McGill, such as we advocate, perhaps one would not find B.A.'s, in their New Year's addresses to Sunday School children, speaking of "that dryest of all studies—Canadian History."

We repeat that McGill should found a Chair of Canadian History and Literature. The object of this step might be well expressed in the following words from the prospectus of *Canadiana*:—"To foster and stimulate the sentiment which is growing among Canadians—of interest in the past, pride in the present, and confidence in the future of the Dominion." But many are the claims upon her not overflowing coffers, and it is her graduates who should make a special effort to establish what would place our University first in the Dominion, and Canada first at McGill.

#### COLLEGIATE PRESS ASSOCIATION.

A movement is on foot to institute an association of journalists connected with College papers, on the same basis as the Press Associations, common in all communities. The scheme would deserve support if it were feasible, but there are features connected with College journalism that the daily press has not to contend with; the *personnel* of the editorial boards is continually changing, and there is not the same community of interest or feeling that binds together members of one great profession, but something might be attempted to bring the managers of so many papers into a closer relation. College journals possess a certain influence, but it is chiefly local, and any effort that tends to concentrate their energy will be productive of good. Such a union would give a dignity to a work that is often thankless, and induce students to keep a closer watch on their representatives, and take a deep interest in their efforts. The journals would keep in truer touch with each other, a broader University sentiment would prevail, and a combined effort could be more effectually made for the common good. At present there is a marked lack of unity among the papers, and there does not seem to be enough editorial acquaintances with the needs and methods of each other. A study of the exchanges helps to counteract this, but such work is confined