BANQUET TO GRADUATES OF McGILL.

Friday, April 2nd, 1880.

This social reunion was not intended to be public, but was merely a private entertainment given by the Principal, Dr. Dawson, on occasion of the 25th year of his term of office ; with the view, as stated in his card of invitation, of renewing old associations, of bringing before the members and friends of the University the results of their labours, of encouraging new efforts and securing more complete unity and co-operation. There are however some features of it in which the members of the University who were not so fortunate as to be present and the public generally may take an interest, and which do not fall within the request made that the proceedings should not be reported.

The invitations were of necessity limited to gentlemen on the lists of the University, and to a few representatives of other institutions of learning. Eight hundred and fifty cards of invitation were issued, beside those to the Graduating Class, about seventy in number. The result was that three hundred and sixty gentlemen sat down to a repast, provided by Mr. Alexander, at six long tables, filling the whole of the William Molson Hall, with the exception of a gallery prepared for ladies. The Hall had previously been decorated by the graduates and students for the Founder's Festival ; and these decorations, with some slight changes, remained, while the tables were liberally adorned with flowers. The guests assembled in the library, and were marshalled to the hall in order of University rank and of date of graduation, and when all were seated, the scene presented was one both novel and imposing.

Grace having been said by the Right Revd. Dr. Bond, the Bishop of Montreal, and sufficient time having been allowed for partaking of the refreshments furnished, and for conversation, Dr. Dawson addressed some words of welcome to his guests. The usual toasts were then duly honoured, including that of " the Lieutenant-Governor," who responded very cordially, and addresses were delivered