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EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

AN IMPORTANT STEP has been, or is about to be taken by the Young Men's Christian Association of McGill. For some time past the need of more spacious quarters and more attractive surroundings has been gradually increasing, until it has now reached such a point that all interested feel that some provision must be made suitable to the wants of so important an organization. Through the kindness of friends and the hard work of its members, the hopes of the Association seem about to be realized, for probably before this reaches our readers the concluding steps that will make it the possessor of the house and lot at the corner of Sherbrooke street and McGill College Avenue will have been taken. This site is a most desirable one, being as it is on the thoroughfare for students going and coming from College, and the house, though not in every way perfect, will serve its purposes admirably until the affairs of the Association admit of the erection of the ideal building.

It would take some time to enumerate the almost endless difficulties that have been overcome to secure this end, and too much credit cannot be given those few students to whose perseverance and energy the present success of the Association is so largely due. It is worthy of notice that this is the first of the student

organizations in McGill to take so important a step, and it is an excellent example,—an example that the other societies may well strive to emulate,—of what well directed work will accomplish.

The Association is fortunate in its trustees,—Messrs. A. F. Gault, Hugh McLennan, C. J. Fleet and Prof. Carus-Wilson, as it is largely owing to the kindness of these gentlemen that proper headquarters are so soon to be furnished.

We beg to congratulate our fellow-students, and wish them all success. We expect much of them in their new surroundings, and, if we may judge from past work, disappointment will not be our lot.

THE FORMAL OPENING of the Medical Buildings on January 8th marks the beginning of another epoch in the history of the Medical Faculty, for it now enters upon its work, thoroughly equipped in all its branches of study.

Heretofore, though laboratory and clinical work had received in so far as was possible the attention they deserved, and though more advantages in practical work had been given to students at McGill than at many other medical schools, it was not felt that practical work had even approached the stage of perfect development.

Since the birth in the year 1824, of the Faculty then known as the Montreal Medical Institution, the boast of professors, graduates and undergraduates has always been that men have received their Degrees only after a thorough and sound course, and that preference has been given to bedside instruction rather than to didactic lectures. As a result of this, the practical method of teaching, it has been necessary from time to time to enlarge the building, increased accommodation being needed for the ever-increasing number of students and for larger laboratories.

It is now generally recognized that the best methods of instruction demand that a knowledge of Anatomy should be acquired in the dissecting room; of Chemistry, in the laboratory; of Histology, by cutting sections and examining them microscopically; of Physiology, by comparing the functions of organs in the