

enabled it to do what it has done in the past, and the Governors appeal with confidence to the merchants and citizens of Montreal of to-day to replace the College in that state of efficiency which recent events have so seriously threatened. (Applause.)

Principal Dawson, upon being invited to address the meeting, said:—I may add one or two educational points to what Mr. Ramsay has laid before the meeting on the financial aspect. In regard to the reductions of which he spoke as actually made, I may mention that they consist, in the first place, of the reduction of the salaries of two of the oldest members of our staff, to whom we were under very great obligations in the early days of McGill; then of the cutting off the possibility of adding any more books to the library or anything to our museum or apparatus; of the cutting off of prizes to students, and of examiners' fees; of the cutting off of many things, in short, which tend to make the College attractive to students, or which are in some respects matters of justice to the institution itself, and to those who are working for it. These are the parings by which this reduction of some \$1,700 has been effected, and it was evident that the expenses would not bear much further paring down. I would say, further, that the number of students attending the University last year was 442, and of this number, between 300 and 350 were young men coming to the city from various parts of the Province of Quebec, and from other portions of the Dominion for their education. They spend their money in Montreal, and they go away having connections and relations with Montreal which are undoubtedly of great benefit to the city. I believe the fact that McGill University has been sending out such a large number of professional men occupying important positions in every part of the Dominion constitutes an element of the city's success, and adds to the metropolitan character of Montreal. This ought not to be overlooked in connection with our college work. We have now three professional faculties and one academical faculty. The medical faculty is essentially self-supporting, the University only giving it a building. This faculty is a noble one and a great credit to Montreal, and the medical men who have been identified with it have made great sacrifices in order to sustain in this city the best medical school in the Dominion, without any expense to the city or the college. With regard to the law faculty, it is not a claimant here, and the University gives it very little

aid. Still it could do better work with more means. The little we are now giving it is proposed to be reduced by one third in the coming year. The faculty of applied science is young, but flourishing. In it are taught mechanical, civil and mining engineering and practical chemistry—all important branches, now that so many great works and factories are rising up in this Dominion. The faculty has now about 40 students, which I think for a young country like Canada is a great success. I hope we shall have an income of \$2,000 from fees in the faculty this year. In addition to our endowments and annual subscriptions, we should have before now received the legacy of the late Miss Scott, amounting to \$30,000, for the endowment of a chair of Civil Engineering. Unfortunately there is litigation in this matter which deprives us at present of any benefit, and may seriously diminish the legacy in the end. With this legacy the Faculty would probably be self-supporting, which it is not at present, but we could wish to have an additional chair endowed in this Faculty. The Faculty of Applied Science is one in which the merchants and citizens of Montreal should take a great interest, and I am of opinion it will grow to be as important as the Medical Faculty before the existing generation shall have passed away. The great expense of the University is in the Faculty of Arts. It is really this faculty that gives vitality to the whole. Without it the others could scarcely exist. I cannot see how the deficiency expected is to be met without crippling the efficiency of the faculty. At present the staff in the Academical Faculty is not as great as we would like it to be, nor as large in proportion as those in some of the other universities in this country. Its salaries and expenses have been cut down to the narrowest possible amounts. Under these circumstances, it would be impossible to reduce the expenses of this faculty without destroying its efficiency. For my own part, I see no other way than either cutting off some subjects actually being taught, or reducing the salaries by a certain percentage. I do not like to contemplate either of these contingencies, nor would I care to manage McGill and be obliged to resort to either means. I myself would have been willing to work without salary for a year or two, but that would not have been enough to meet the deficit. We are therefore driven to the necessity of falling back on our old friends, the merchants and manufacturers of Montreal, and asking them to do again what they did in the past. I