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EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

SOME RECENT UNIVERSITY LOSSES.

The students re-assembling for the final half-session will find that in the interval some changes have taken place in college affairs, and principally we might mention, as affecting their comfort and advantage, the first practical step which has been taken towards the realization of the much-discussed University club; and others of a less pleasant nature affecting the teaching staff, and necessitated by the withdrawal from University work of Professors Trenholme and Carlyle. For the retirement from work of old and tried Professors is always a matter for regret to the students and all true friends of the University. The return of Doctor Trenholme to the active practice of his profession, and his retirement from the Faculty of Law after twenty-seven years of continuous, arduous and unselfish labor in its behalf, is a matter which has not failed to excite the lively interest of the Law students. And the loss occasioned thereby they have just cause to deplore. In view of Dr. Trenholme's position in the University and his long term of service, it was eminently fitting, therefore,

that the students should mark in some tangible form their appreciation of his work, and their sense of the loss suffered by the Faculty of Law, through his withdrawal from it. But we mistake greatly if the Law students, in presenting the Dean with an illuminated address, were prompted wholly by a narrow Faculty interest. It was no doubt felt, in response to a wider and broader prompting, that the University as a whole, not being segregated from its faculties, must be affected by, and partake in the advantages and losses incident to each and all of them. A glance at the list of graduates will show that there is some basis for this sentiment. The graduates of the Faculty of Law, small as it is comparatively in numbers, have reflected no discredit on the University. On the contrary, occupying as they do some of the highest positions in the state, being conspicuous on the bench of the Province and eminent at the Bar, it may be justly claimed for them, that they are most worthy children of McGill, and have done much to set her in a fair light before the world. Most, if not all of these, may also be claimed as Dr. Trenholme's students, they having passed under him as Professor in the Faculty of Law. Without the slightest disparagement, therefore, to the eminent men who have been associated with him in the Faculty, Dr. Trenholme may justly claim to have done some service to the University and to the cause of legal education in the Province of Quebec. As a teacher, Dr. Trenholme has been eminently successful. It is no doubt true that unless the material with which any teacher has to deal be of the right sort, his best efforts will not greatly tell; but where there is the necessary intellectual stamina, the individuality of the teacher and his methods will immensely influence the course of the serious student. In this regard, it might not be uninteresting to note briefly a few characteristics which have always struck the students in connection with Dr. Trenholme's lectures. In lecturing then, foremost of all, the Dean possessed the peculiar gift of arousing the interest and enthusiasm of the students in the subject in hand. However uninteresting the branch of law taken up might apparently be, it soon became invested with a living interest, and the student, instead of being repelled, found himself alive to the importance and attractiveness of the subject. Dr. Trenholme's preliminary course on obli-