

country, and of a higher character than those afforded by the ordinary Academies and Colleges; thus fulfilling the wise and benevolent intentions of the founder, and giving to our young men the opportunity of raising their mental culture to the level of that in older countries. It has further been an object of solicitude with the Governors to promote practical scientific training bearing on the more important professions, and they would gladly do more in this direction did their resources permit.

The following statements, contained in a former memorial, may be here repeated, as enforcing the claims of the University to public aid.

*First*:—The late Mr. McGill undoubtedly made his bequest under the expectation and implied promise that a further and sufficient endowment would be made by the Provincial Government. This is apparent from the circumstances under which the bequest was made. The Governor in Chief in 1801 laid before the Provincial Parliament a message in the following terms:

“That His Majesty had been graciously pleased to give directions for the establishment of a competent number of Free Schools, for the instruction of children in the first rudiments of useful learning, and in the English tongue, and for foundations of a more enlarged and comprehensive nature, and that His Majesty had been further pleased to signify His Royal intention that a suitable proportion of the lands of the Crown should be set apart, and the revenues thereof appropriated to such purposes.” As a preliminary step, the Act incorporating the Royal Institution for the Advancement of Learning was passed, containing this message in its preamble; and thereafter, it was intended that the “liberal grant of Crown Lands,” referred to in the message, should be transferred to its control, in trust for Free Schools and “Foundations of a more enlarged and comprehensive nature,”—but no grant was ever made.

The late Mr. McGill was not only an active Member of the Legislature at this time, but an Executive Councillor, and therefore, must be presumed to have been thoroughly conversant with the intentions of the Imperial and Provincial Governments. By his last will he bequeathed a sum of money and his Estate of Burnside to the Royal Institution for the purpose of erecting and maintaining a University; but his endowment, liberal as it was, was yet quite inadequate for the object