

general acclamation, been showered upon the head of Principal Sir William Dawson." The valedictory next referred to the presence of lady students, and the remarkable success they had achieved. Their presence besides correcting false notions about the intellectual capacity of the ladies might incidentally lead to the discarding of that relic of ages passed away, the gown. It was not to be expected that graduates just leaving their college had no observations to make upon beneficial changes which might be made. Loyalty to their Alma Mater should not lead to a lack of discrimination between what was good and what ought to be remedied. The best members of any society or corporation were those who quick to recognize the necessity for reforms were equally willing to bear a part in effecting them. The establishment of a general dining-hall would be an improvement in the college life of McGill. In addition to the saving of time and increase of comfort, such an institution would strengthen that feeling of community of interest, which attendance together on lectures did not sufficiently promote amongst the students. In conclusion, the undergraduates were urged to foster the athletic sports, take part in the work of the debating society, and support the college paper. While competing with those of the opposite sex in a fair and generous rivalry they could exhibit a courtesy and respect in their treatment of the lady students which would go far to render easy the carrying on of partial co-education at McGill. The diligence which would comprehend more than the mere range of cut and dried course laid down would give a better claim to the rank of scholar, while upon their conduct the reputation of the college greatly depended. In bidding a formal farewell the class of 1885 left its record for its immediate successors to improve of or else improve upon.

When the lady-students were called forward to receive their prizes, a storm of applause greeted them, indicative of the sincere congratulations of their competitors of the opposite sex.

#### THE FACULTY OF SCIENCE

Prof. Bovey, Dean of the Faculty of Applied Science, then read the results in his Faculty. The graduates were the following:—H. V. Thompson (Lansdowne Medal, Skelton prize, and six other prizes, for various subjects) C. W. Trenholme, B.A. (British Association Medal), E. McC. Macy, (Honors in Natural Science and prize), E. P. Mathewson, (Honors in Natural Science and prize), Samuel Fortier, (Prize in heat and heat engines) Jude Routhier, and T. W. Lesage. Mr. Fortier, B.A.S. was called on to read the valedictory for the graduating class in Science.

The first part of it was devoted to a thoughtful, outspoken and manly examination of the college course which the class had just completed. In a zealous and patriotic tone he dwelt on the disinterested and faithful work of their professors, and on the benefits of the mental training received. "Far be it," says he, "from us to feel ungrateful for that spirit of zeal and unselfishness which has been shown by the professors in our behalf." Again, "our intellects have been trained, not by long intervals of rest during the first part of the

session followed by spasmodic efforts near the close, but rather by steady application during every day throughout the session."

Notwithstanding, however, the admirable spirit of the address towards good, old McGill, the writer takes occasion to speak of the dissatisfaction felt by many of the most earnest and thoughtful students on account of some of the features of the work of the science faculty. Here, though, he is too loyal to rudely complain. So much useful and wise instruction has been given as to render it difficult to speak of the drawbacks. But that there are imperfections, and that the writer experienced them, is plainly shown by the address. "We know not yet," he says, how much we shall be benefitted by the course now completed, or how much of the knowledge obtained will be serviceable to us in our future careers. We know not yet whether the four best years of our lives could have been more profitably spent in labor in the field. The answers to such enquiries can only be given after years of time, and upon the verdict which time shall give depends to a great extent the success of the Science Faculty." In another place, "We assert with satisfaction that a large part of the work of the course has been effected by our unaided exertions. The arduous task of solving problems in engineering science has not been accomplished without some discount on the part of the students. There have been times when unable, after hours of hard study, to perform well the tasks assigned us, our spirits have risen in rebellion against the severe mental discipline to which we were subjected. Even now the recollection of these trials is too vivid to permit that outflow of thanks with which professors are usually deluged on convocation day." He adds, in his encomiums on the good deeds of the citizens of Montreal. "We entreat you to guard the interests of the infant Faculty of Applied Science in the future as you have done in the past. Such a department is essential to the country and if through want of accommodation or the necessary equipments its usefulness be restricted here, other universities will receive the students who would have gladly come to McGill.

The other chief topics of the valedictory were the importance of the science of engineering and the enterprises of the student outside of his immediate class work. Under these enterprises we have reference to Athletic Sports in which a well merited compliment is paid to the Professor of Surveying. Reference is also made to the Reading Room and the *McGill University Gazette*. On the subject of engineering we have the following eloquent passage: "Already the members of the engineering profession have exerted a mighty influence in the development of the country. The bridges which span our wide rivers, the channels cut by human agency to overcome their rapids the valuable ores obtained from mines, the machinery in use, the locomotive whose shrill whistle wakens the dwellers on Acadian shores, resounds through the forests of New Brunswick, rouses to increased activity the inhabitants along the Banks of the St. Lawrence, frightens the wild herds on Saskatchewan plains, reverberates from peak to peak of the Selkirks, and finally dies away on the bosom of the broad Pacific; all attest to the genius and skill of the engineer."