

it must be remembered that the Professors are at present working on partial salaries, a state of things which should be remedied upon the very first opportunity. Next we must keep in mind that the primary object of the College is to educate men—the education of women would be, as far as McGill is concerned, a kind of extra department. Now, until the original object is as perfectly carried out as it can be, it would not be right to enter upon this additional undertaking if by so doing the efforts in the other direction were in any way dwarfed. It is patent to everybody that there are many improvements urgently necessary in order to bring the College to its proper efficiency. We may mention, for example, the delivery of lectures on Political Economy and the establishment of a separate chair of Modern History, the want of which has been long felt. Indeed, as our readers must be very well aware, the pressing needs of the College are too numerous to be even touched upon by us. The Faculty of Law is in need of much help, while there are several buildings which must sooner or later be erected and sustained, including a Residence and Dining Hall. Even the institution of what are called post-graduate courses, a subject to which we hope to refer at more length at some future time, deserves to be considered before any expenditure is resolved upon for female education. In a word, then, we repeat, admit females as soon as possible to the Academic privileges of the University, and, if no expense is entailed thereby, and no injury done to the male students, to those of the College as well; but if for the latter purpose an expenditure has to be made, the Corporation should wait until an endowment has been left by some person expressly for that purpose, or until, all the other improvements having been effected to which we referred, there still remains a surplus fund.

It is unusual in the columns of a College paper to treat matters which do not directly affect the course of University life, but there are occasions on which it may be admissible to do so: and we may perhaps be permitted to refer to the recent political somersault of our cousins across the border, and the lesson we should learn from it.

The defeat of the Republican party in the United States, is unparalleled in the history of that country. The so-called tidal wave of 1874 was only a lively ripple compared to this overwhelming flood. In some States there were certain local causes of dissatisfaction, but these cannot account for the sweep of disaster to the Republican party all over the country, unless they be regarded as symptoms of evil pervading the whole party, more or less, and which have caused a general feeling of distrust and discomfort among its members. The people had become tired of the Republican party as it exists, and as it has existed for some years,—tired of its boss-rule and machine-methods—tired of the extravagance under its auspices,—tired of its determination to keep an old set of political tricksters in power,—tired of its constant professions of reform without performance, and hence its downfall.

We do not propose to draw a comparison between the politics of the United States and those of our own country, but we do propose to offer a suggestion which must be endorsed by every true lover of his country.

We cannot fail to see smouldering in our midst sectional and religious animosities and political hatreds which threaten our national existence. Our people, instead of rallying to the watchword of country, are united in small groups by local prejudices and political jealousies. The young men of the country hold the remedy in their hands, and need but apply it.

There can be no national greatness for Canada without first inculcating a national feeling and sentiment in her people. What the future of this country may be we will not attempt to predict, but we, as young men, ought to set our minds on an ideal greatness for it, and do our best to reach that ideal.

What is needed, and what the people should demand, is a party with new aspirations and aims, as well as with a new organization, a party in good faith throwing off the evil tendencies of the spoils system with all that it implies, a party which will take up the living questions of the day upon their own proper merits with the honest purpose of solving them, instead of treating them merely with an eye to political capital—a party that faithfully serves the public welfare instead of the greed of its political workers and the selfish ambition of its leaders.

In this age, when time is so precious and when men are striving to perfect their condition and keep pace with the rapid strides of civiliza-

tion, we wonder that the Governors of McGill University do not take some steps towards improving the method by which the students of the Law Faculty will have greater advantages afforded them than they possess at present.

Great as may be their zeal for study and great as are the facilities now offered, too few lectures are nevertheless delivered wherein the principles of the law are expounded. By way of example, there are several Titles in our Code which are left unexplained, and consequently the student, in preparing for his Bar Examination, is obliged to flounder about in the dark.

In order to remedy this defect, we would, therefore, urge the students to lay before the Faculty the plan which we now desire to submit for your consideration. It does not suggest a change. The adoption of which will necessitate a greater expenditure to our already burdened *Alma Mater*, nor is it one which will cause such inconvenience to the learned professors as to render it wholly impracticable. It claims your attention from the fact that it will secure double the number of lectures, and a consequent increase of your facilities for acquiring professional knowledge. It is, moreover, a plan according to which the lectures at the University of Paris are regulated, and is one which has been adopted by other Universities even in Canada, and found to work admirably.

As you are aware, lectures are now given to the first year separately, and to the second and third years jointly. For example, the learned professor, Mr. Archibald, delivers his able lectures on Criminal Law to the students of the first year; while, on the same day at a later hour, he interprets Criminal Procedure or Constitutional Law to those of the second and third years. Does not the student encounter as many difficulties in the former as he does in the latter? Why not, therefore, lecture to the three years on each of these branches at the same time?

Again, in order to secure more lectures, you could conveniently have two lectures in the afternoon from 4 to 5 o'clock, and one in the morning from half-past eight to half-past nine. The only great innovation here, would be the morning lecture; but it is one whose manifest advantages commend your attention. For is not the morning the time when the mind of the student is fresh and most capable of grasping the truths to which his thoughts are directed? He does not come already wearied from having been engaged in some legal pursuit or other. And as the Courts do not open till 10 o'clock, neither professor nor student would be prevented from attending to the business connected therewith.

If, by this increase of lectures the course be too difficult, let the College year consist of two terms—Christmas and Spring—each having its own examination.

There is yet another way. If the morning lecture be objected to, let the Academic year be extended, e.g., so as to commence on the first of September and close at the end of the month of April.

To these suggestions, two objections may be raised. Let us, therefore, consider them. First, the University would be obliged to hold an extra Convocation, not, as now, conjointly with that for conferring degrees in Medicine. Second, it denies to the students in Arts the privilege of receiving lectures in Law in connection with those in Arts.

To meet the first objection, why not have the Law Convocation on same day as that in Arts, which generally takes place about the last of April or the first of May. In reply to the second, the loss which the Arts students would be subjected to is only a questionable one. In the present state of things, it would seem a loss; but the benefit arising from the suggested change would eventually more than repay them for the extra time.

The latter question should, however, be treated as purely local to the Law Faculty; and should any amelioration be made, it should not be interfered with from the fact that a few students from other faculties receive instruction from the Faculty of Law. We feel confident that if students from the Law Faculty were desirous of attending lectures in the Faculties of Arts or Medicine, the latter would not make any alteration to benefit or meet the requirements of the students at Law. Why, then, should the progress of the Law student be impeded by a handful of students from another Faculty?

In view of the increased sessional fee, we consider that some such alteration as the foregoing should be made, whereby the student will be amply compensated for the additional charge.

Another change suggests itself to us, viz., that certain of the lectures

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