

will and the provisions of the Royal Charter, all offices whatever in McGill College were left freely open either to the Protestants or Roman Catholics and students of all denominations would be permitted to attend. He deemed it necessary to explain how the present professors happened to be all members of the Church of England. When found necessary to name professors in virtue of the Charter of the college his late father, then Bishop of the Diocese, had submitted several names to His Excellency, the Earl of Dalhousie, for these offices, among which those of the Rev. Archdeacon Strachan and the Rev. Dr. Harkness having been proposed as eligible either one or the other, to the same professorship. His Excellency, whether swayed by a feeling of delicacy and desire to avoid the appearance of partiality, on account of his being himself a member of the Church of Scotland, or from whatever cause, decided in favor of the former gentleman. This circumstance was mentioned in proof that the original as well as the present intention of the governors was in all respects to show due respect to the intentions of the will of Mr. McGill and the terms of the Charter.

It had been deemed necessary for the present to declare that the professors should be graduates of some British university, but that a preference should hereafter be shown to those who had graduated within its walls. The governors would feel it to be their duty under all discouraging instances to push on the great undertaking and never to cease in their exertions for its prosperity. They hoped they would meet with general support, and they trusted with confidence that they would be assisted by all when the very liberal terms of the will and Charter were considered. It would be necessary for them to make a strong and powerful appeal to the Mother Country and they expected great pecuniary assistance from those resident near the establishment, and more directly interested in its prosperity.

They would, as soon as possible, establish a system of collegiate education and there was a predisposition to engraft upon the college the well-known and respectable medical institution now in existence in the city. The door of the building was at length open and it was the duty of all to proceed with vigour. They might at first complain of a great want of means for such an institution, for it required much to place it on a respectable footing, but while they thus looked forward with confidence they should not be unmindful that the Province was highly indebted to the very liberal disposition of Mr. McGill who had set such a praiseworthy example to his fellow-citizens, whose duty it now became generally to aid his work and follow up his munificent views.

The Archdeacon concluded his address by expressing his convictions that all who were present felt alike the dependence of every human undertaking for its success upon the blessing of the Divine Providence and would be therefore unanimously ready to join in the religious services with which it was proposed to conclude the business of the day, and in which he accordingly proceeded.

The 8th chapter of Proverbs, which had been selected as appropriate to the occasion was first read; after which the following verses selected from different Psalms were repeated in the way of alternation—the responsive part being sustained by the other clergy of the Church of England who were present.