

history the children are taught is Canadian. But what of our universities, where the child's prejudices are moulded into the reasoning tenets of the man or woman? We have not one that even recognizes the annals of her land.

Take, for example, McGill. It is true that her associate in Arts examination, for which the city schools and country academies prepare candidates, requires a paper on Canadian history; but for matriculation the subject is not mentioned. At the end of the first year, the McGill student is confronted with an examination in Greek and Roman history; British history is compulsory in the Intermediate.

During the fourth year, lectures are delivered in Universal history, and the B. A. classics comprises ancient history. Greek, Latin, English, French, and German languages and literature, all have their places in the calendar, while in the whole course no mention is made of our country, or its *raison d'être*. Stay! there is an honorable exception; the fourth year lectures in geology and mineralogy bear witness to the fact that of the ten professors in the faculty of Arts, two, at least, are Canadians.

Should not Canadian history and literature be taught in our colleges? "Our country is young," says the quibbler; "Her history is comprised in a few volumes which anyone can read for himself; as for literature, comparatively little is heard of Canadian writers."

Quite true; very little is heard of them. And why? Simply because our universities devote all their attention to foreign authors, while their own intellectual offspring are struggling unheeded up the heights. And if our story extends over four centuries only, so much the easier will it be to stamp indelibly on the student's mind each self-sacrifice, deed of daring, or blood-bought victory to which we owe our existence. No old-world nation is enveloped in such a glamour of romance as ours. Its very recentness invests Canada's history with an interest which does not attach to the legends of buried ages.

Why should not McGill take the lead in establishing a "chair of Canadian history and literature"? Now, when the very atmosphere seems fraught with patriotic sentiment it would not be impossible, though perhaps difficult, to raise twenty thousand dollars for the purpose. Five-dollar subscriptions from McGill's eighteen hundred graduates, with two dollars each from the students, would furnish half the sum required; while there are not wanting public-spirited Montrealers who would lend their aid in the enterprise. An enthusiastic committee of graduates and students could push the matter through before the be-

ginning of next session. Then, with a native-born professor to fill the chair, our *Alma Mater* might well claim the precedence among her sister universities in helping to raise the stronghold of patriotism that will make of our country a great and noble nation.

#### OUR UNIVERSITY.

We publish below some notable statements, which go to show the position McGill University holds among Canadian Colleges, especially the department devoted to the higher education of women; they come in most appropriately at the present time in view of the malignant persistency with which, from one motive or another, our University is being assailed. We make no comment, but merely point to the figures in vindication of McGill.

The number of students in the Faculty of Arts attending lectures up to the present date this session is now 300, of whom 98 are women. This total does not include students of the other faculties, very many of whom also attend the Arts' Professors lectures. About half are Undergraduates, but the number of matriculated students, which include the Partials, is nearly 200.

In the Donalda Department for Women, the number at present of matriculated students is 49, viz., 33 Undergraduates and 16 Partials. The number of "occasional" students in the same department is 49, giving the total of 98 mentioned above.

The following list, obtained from the latest calendars, shows the number of women students at the end of last session in the Arts' Faculties of the Universities named:—

University College, Toronto.....	27
Victoria College, Cobourg.....	16
Queen's College, Kingston.....	15
Dalhousie College, Halifax.....	34
McGill College, Montreal.....	109

A comparison of the total number of Arts' students in McGill College at decennial intervals shows at once the firm, forward strides our University is taking:—

In April, 1859, the total was.....	60
In January, 1869, the total was.....	78
In January, 1879, the total was.....	149
In January, 1888-89 (up to Nov. 1st), over.....	300

The second set of facts is published to show the difficulty experienced at McGill in obtaining the Bachelor of Arts degree, and they meet the contention of the French Bar of this Province, that all who go up for the degree succeed, because not many are rejected in the final examination. Even if none failed, it would prove nothing, for the Under-