

We are indebted to Your Excellency for the continued gift of Gold and Silver Medals for competition in the University and in the Normal School.

Dr. R. J. Wicksteed, of Ottawa, has also continued his gift of a Gold, Silver, and Bronze Medal for Physical Culture, the competition for which is open to students in all the faculties.

When the Chair of Hebrew in the Faculty of Arts became vacant by the decease of the late Rev. Dr. De Sola, the Governors were enabled to secure the services of Rev. Prof. Cousirat, B A., an able Hebrew and Chaldee scholar, and one of the company of revisers of the Old Testament in France, as Lecturer in Hebrew and Oriental Languages, with the same small stipend given to his predecessor. An appeal was, however, made to the friends of the University for an adequate endowment for the chair. We regret that hitherto this appeal has been without result, and it is thought proper to quote here a portion of the statement made in 1882 :—

“On the reorganization of the University under its new charter in 1852, one of the chairs established by the Board of Governors was that of Hebrew, for which the services of the late Rev. Dr. de Sola, a man of eminent and established reputation in the subject, were secured.

“There can be no question that, even in the depressed condition of the financial affairs of the University at that time, this was a wise resolution. The claims of the Hebrew and other Semitic languages as means of education were then beginning to be very generally recognized, and have been more and more acknowledged in all the more important universities. Further, it was desirable that the University, being without any Divinity Chair of its own, should do what it could to advance the interests of theological students, and thereby to prepare the way for the affiliation of Theological Colleges,—since that time happily realized with great benefit both to the colleges and to the University.

“The classes in Hebrew, at first very small, have steadily increased, until in the present session fifty-two students have entered on the study of this subject, which is allowed to take a place in the regular course of the University as an alternative with one of the modern languages.