

to build it up in this city, where they could meet on common ground, and which was the emporium of her commerce; they should assist to build up this University, which was founded on a basis of unselfishness, and wherein all that it could do was done for each and for all. We could not, by consulting the past, tell what this College could do for us. The history of the schools of Greece and Rome, that of the great colleges of the middle ages, could not inform us what McGill College could yet do for Canada, for we lived in a new world, and could claim that, in this new world, colleges were not reared to train up bigots. This was not so in the ancient world, where knowledge had been guarded and surrounded with mysteries; knowledge no longer sought to enfold itself within doors of darkness, but came forth and stood in the open light. There was a great and vital difference in the structure of our civilization from all that had preceded it. It was built upon the head, the heart, and the hand. The earliest, that of Nimrod, was of the strong hand merely; that of Cicero combined the head and the hand; but ours was the tripartite union of the whole man, head, heart, and hand. We had all the experience of the past to build upon, and we had an Albert the Good, as the product of our age, and an exemplar for our practice; and, on this cultivation of the head, heart, and the hand, was the McGill University built. A hundred things had transpired in the streets of Montreal that day, these were of the hand, and might seem to have been the life of the day; but there were other things, such as they were now met to forward, things of the head and the heart, and which formed the true life of the period. The work of learning must go on amongst us, it ranked among life's chief blessings; it was a benefit that grew yet greater by diffusion, and, herein, in our own good we saw that of others, and in that of others, our own. We stood where, to some extent, others had stood in the past, where others would stand in the future, and we now celebrate a festival which, to us, ought to be the proudest of the year.—John R. Mackie, B.A., addressed the audience on behalf of the Undergraduates in Medicine. He commenced by saying, that the good which men performed remained long after their death; hence the name of McGill was embalmed in the memory of all, and this foundation of his was as a spring, diffusing health and life wherever it flowed. From this University went forth young men, destined to take their part in the learned professions, in the commerce, and in the legislation of the country. The knowledge here imparted was powerful as the irresistible forces of nature, which rent the rock, and hurled the burning masses from the crater of the volcano; powerful as the wand of Prospero. Education called forth latent strength, and stimulated the mind to yet further exertions, opening before it the future and the past; going back 2,000 years into the ancient science, and still more remotely, beyond all preceding search, into the history of our planet, until, at last, the soul stood absorbed before the great mystery of life itself. As upon the rough canvas, by the touch of the painter, scenes of surpassing beauty arose, so, under the influence of education, did the human mind become transformed. Educational institutions gave force, form, and polish to the character; and to be nationally great, in the present day, required not alone military, but moral and intellectual power. The number and nature of her educational institutions were, then, of vast moment to Canada, in these her days of young development, when she was taking the form which she might retain for ages. Happily they were of that accessible nature, and offered that generous culture, that here all who wished might taste of the Pierian spring; in this land of freedom, every man of moderate abilities and perseverance might rise to respectability. Canada could scarcely expect to become great in a military point of view; but the foundations of her power must be such as would command respect for her moral and intellectual force.—Prof. Torrance said he was sorry to announce that the Hon. Mr. McGee, who was to have spoken on this occasion, had not been able to attend, on account of sickness. That gentleman had been described by our Minister of Finance—himself no mean example of an eloquent speaker—as the first of Canadian orators. Mr. Torrance would take that opportunity of expressing the pleasure the company had experienced in enjoying the hospitality of the University Society.—Mr. Morrison spoke for the Faculty of Arts, in a brief, rapid, but eloquent speech, which, we regret, want of time and space forbids us to give—concluding by bidding the company a hearty welcome, in the name of the youngest, but not the least, of the faculties in the College. The proceedings soon afterwards terminated.—Witness.

—ST. FRANCIS DISTRICT TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.—This meeting was held at Stanstead, on December 29th and 30th, Rev. J. H. Nicolls D. D., President of the Association in the chair. The following list of officers

for the ensuing year, reported by the nominating committee was appointed: President—Reverend J. H. Nicolls, D. D., Lennoxville. Vice-Presidents—J. H. Graham, A.M., Richmond, and W. H. Lee, A.M., Stanstead. Secretary-Treasurer—H. Hubbard, A.M., Sherbrooke. Executive Committee,—the President, Vice-Presidents, and Secretary *ex officio*, the Revs. A. Duff, C. P. Reid, Sherbrooke, and W. E. Jones, A.M., Richmond. An essay, written by Prof. Miles, on some points connected with the duty and prospects of the Teachers of our District in view of the proposed Confederation of the British Provinces, was read by Rev. Mr. Allen. The report of the judges appointed to decide upon the Galt Prize Essays was announced, awarding the 1st prize, \$25, to Miss Margaret Robertson, of the Sherbrooke Academy; the 2nd prize, \$10, to Miss Eliza P. Perkins, of Hatley. A letter from the Hon. J. S. Sanborn was read by the President, placing \$25 at the disposal of the Association as a prize for the best Essay, to be offered the ensuing year, to which was added the offer of \$10, by Dr. Nicolls, as a second prize. The President having kindly consented to read Miss Robertson's Essay, it was listened to with much interest, and the President and Judges were requested to take the necessary steps to secure its publication. Principal Graham, on behalf of the business committee, announced as exercises for the evening session, the presentation of the prizes to the successful competitors by Hon. A. T. Galt, and addresses by that gentleman and Hon. P. J. O. Chauveau, Superintendent of Education. The President in calling the meeting to order, expressed much pleasure in introducing to the audience the Hon. A. T. Galt, and the Hon. P. J. O. Chauveau. Hon. Mr. Galt expressed much gratification in the opportunity thus afforded him of meeting the friends of education in Stanstead, and of presenting in person the well merited prizes to the ladies, to whom they had been, he doubted not, justly awarded. In Miss Robertson's absence, Inspector Hubbard responded briefly in her behalf, and also of Miss Perkins who received her prize in person. Mr. Galt then addressed the meeting at some length, testifying his deep interest in the cause of Education, and his anxiety, as a member of the government, to do everything possible to ensure its safety and success, and repeating the assurances given in his addresses at Sherbrooke. Hon. Mr. Chauveau next addressed the Convention. He spoke briefly of what had been done by the establishment of Normal Schools, to furnish an improved class of teachers, and in the formation of Teachers' Associations for the benefit of the many excellent teachers already employed. He referred to the *Journal of Education*, stating that if any teachers complained that it is not as good as it might be, it was in their power to make it better. He alluded to the complaint made by some of a different religious persuasion, expressing his desire that full justice should be done to all. He spoke in complementary terms of the lead which Stanstead had taken in the work of education. The President made a few remarks urging the importance of teaching both the English and French languages in our schools, which were warmly seconded by the Hon. Superintendent. The exercises of the evening were interspersed with appropriate Music by the Band. Essays on the office and work of Teachers were read by Dr. Nicolls, W. H. Lee, A.M., and Mr. C. C. Colby, after which Principal Graham made some personal explanations relative to his connection with another Association, and asked permission, on behalf of the Protestant Association of Montreal, to present to the Hon. gentlemen present a paper issued by their committee. The paper was accepted by the Hon. Messrs. Galt and Chauveau, who in doing so, stated that the suggestions of the Committee would receive their careful attention. They also expressed their wish to hear the views of teachers and others present, relative to amendments in the School laws. Dr. O spoke particularly of his desire that measures should be taken to secure separate and distinct funds, in future, for the support of Superior and Common Schools. Mr. Inspector Hubbard suggested some changes in the details of the law, particularly in regard to the division of the Common School funds among the several districts in each municipality, and also in regard to dissentient schools. Mr. C. C. Colby disapproved of the extensive powers given to School Commissioners, and was in favour of leaving the management of the Schools more with the districts, by allowing them to choose managers to employ teachers, &c. He also spoke of the indifference of the people in the election of Commissioners, and was in favour of vesting their powers in the Municipal Councils. Mr. Thos. Jenkins made some matter of fact as well as rather humorous statements relative to the course pursued by the Stanstead Commissioners, in collecting taxes and paying teachers in "greenbacks," and in employing cheap teachers. The President also made some important suggestions. He also expressed the thanks of the association to our Hon. visitors for their kind attendance. On motion of Principal Graham it was resolved that the Annual Meeting