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MONTREAL, JUNE, 1893.

"THE LUXURY OF EXPERT SURGERY."

The last number of the *Medical Press and Circular* of London contains an editorial under the above heading, in which it is stated that there has been a serious falling off in the amount of work coming to the great consulting physicians and surgeons of the world's metropolis. Two causes are assigned for this state of affairs: one is that the price of the luxury has been too high for the people to indulge in it; and the other that the medical profession is only sharing in the general financial depression which is at present existing all over the world. The latter seems the more reasonable explanation, for it is evident that when business is bad and money is scarce people will forego the luxury of consulting the great operator or consulting physician.

THE GOOD FORTUNE OF THE MEDICAL FACULTY OF MCGILL UNIVERSITY.

We feel that we are not only expressing our own but also the feelings of all those who have at heart the cause of higher medical education, when we offer our congratulations to McGill on its good fortune in now being in the possession of an endowment of over a quarter of a million of dollars, bringing in a revenue of something like fifteen thousand dollars a year. This amount, though it may seem very moderate to some, is sufficient nevertheless to immensely

ly strengthen its resources, for, as is well known, several of the chairs, such as Physiology, Pathology, Chemistry and Hygiene, are so exacting as to demand all the time of their respective professors, precluding them entirely from engaging in practice. On the other hand, the fees from students are not alone sufficient to compensate a man of first rate ability for sacrificing his prospects as a practitioner. McGill's endowment fund now enables her to add enough to the fees to make up a very handsome salary for several of the professors, who are thus enabled to devote the whole of their time to college work, which as a result must be of a much higher order than when performed during the few and far-between spare moments of an active practitioner's life. The mere fact of so many of the chairs being endowed will no doubt draw students from all parts of the continent, while the increased number of students will itself augment the zeal of the professors. It must be very discouraging to the professors of small and unendowed schools to not only lecture year after year to half a dozen students, without fee or reward, as was stated by the dean of one of them at a recent convocation, but even to be assessed at the end of the session for their share of the expenses. It is to be hoped that the friends of Bishop's Medical Faculty will come to her rescue, as did the friends of McGill, and by a liberal endowment place her in a position to do better work, no matter how small the number of students in attendance.

It would be a great pity if, after having so bravely struggled against adversity for over twenty years, she should at last be allowed to die for the want of a fairshare of public interest and support.

THE EARLY AND ACCURATE DIAGNOSIS OF DIPHTHERIA.

Every practitioner knows how much anxiety and responsibility is attached to the care of a case of severe sore throat, owing to the doubt whether the disease is merely follicular tonsillitis, simple ulcerated sore throat or malignant diphtheria. When the patient is nearing the end and is evidently about to die, the diagnosis has already become clear, but too late to be of any practical value. When an ac-