

templated avenue in Sherbrooke street, round the college and reservoir, and pass out of the grounds by the present northern gate, at a trifling expense; and umbrageous trees should be planted on both sides of it, and elsewhere in the grounds. The site of the building is fine; commanding a noble view of the city and the magnificent St. Lawrence, and the surrounding grounds, consisting of picturesque undulations, possess great facilities of ornamental improvement.

The neglect which the McGill University has met, is not creditable to this city. It is true that the writer has heard this accounted for by the character of its municipal regulations, which were at one time less liberal than they are at present. But it is to be feared that the good people here follow more the habits of their southern neighbours than of the two great lands from which they spring, and prefer the forcing of precocious attainments in childhood and early youth, to the slower education of France and England. The prospects of the university were never so good as at present, and a large increase of the number of students may be reasonably anticipated. A gentleman of varied talent and the highest character has lately been appointed Principal, as already mentioned, and intends to reside in the college. He purposes lecturing during the present season (and perhaps during the next summer) on natural history, including botany, and thus accomplishing a *desideratum* of the institution.

There is nothing at present in the character of the regulations of the University which can form an assumed or valid reason for neglect. This great and growing city possesses a university of high character, qualified to impart an education in the higher branches of science and literature, at a moderate expense to the youth of Canada, under the invaluable *surveillance* of the parents of those who reside in Montreal. There is no obstruction of any kind. The doors are open to all; and the instruction and honours of the institution are obtainable by pupils of all classes and religious denominations. Without a more serious imputation on the character of a city that aspires in every respect to the high position of the Canadian metropolis, than the writer wishes to make, he cannot doubt of the future popularity of this meritorious institution.

Montreal, Dec. 20, 1855.

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