

pervading the sons of McGill. Great, therefore, was the rejoicing when in the course of the evening it was announced that Mr. Peter Redpath, long the friend of the College, proposed shortly to erect on its grounds a large and costly museum for educational purposes, and that the building was to be stored with the valuable collections of the Principal. A further announcement stated that the graduates proposed to commemorate this anniversary by the creation of a fund to be expended on some object which should perpetuate the name of Principal Dawson.

The project announced in April saw the beginning of its fulfilment in September, when with all due ceremony the cornerstone of the museum was laid by His Excellency the Marquis of Lorne. The speech of His Excellency on this occasion contained a tribute to the Principal, which is so pleasing to McGill students that it seems not inapt to quote a few of its sentences here. After speaking of Dr. Dawson's studies in Acadian geology, the Marquis said: "just as it was not for Acadia alone but in the interests of Science that his first labor was undertaken, so now it is not for any special locality but for the good of our whole country that he is at the head of this place of learning.....Even in his presence it is right that this should be said of him, here on this spot where you are to raise a new temple of the practical sciences, and now that he with you has become the recipient of this gift which is a tribute from one who has earned success in the hard battle of life offered to men who with so much devotion are training other lives to win their way by knowledge through the difficulties which lie before them."

In August, 1882, the museum was formally opened, and has ever since that time been one of the most highly prized of the advantages offered to students of the University.

In 1882 the number of students had reached 415, of whom the largest portion belonged to the Medical Faculty. The infant Faculty of Applied Science was being carefully nurtured by Professor Bovey, and had lately been much strengthened by the endowment by Miss Barbara Scott of the Chair of Civil Engineering.

In 1883 Dr. Dawson, who was feeling the effect of his twenty-eight years of arduous and exacting work in the College, left it in charge of the vice-principal, and went for a year of rest and change to the Old World.

He met with a gratifying reception from those high in power as well as from scientific men. Honours were conferred upon him, and when he returned in 1884, it was as Sir William Dawson.

The year of Sir William's return was marked by two events: the visit to Montreal and McGill of the British Association for the Advancement of Science,

and the endowment of the Special Faculty for women afterwards the Donalda Department of the Faculty of Arts, by the Hon. Donald A. Smith.

The ability of the College authorities to act as hosts to the British Association and the facilities which they could offer it for study show the place to which the institution had attained in scientific circles. The endowment of Mr. Smith was the crowning point of a series of events reaching back to 1870, when the first movement was made for the higher education of women in the city of Montreal. For the beginning of this as of many reforms, the community owes its thanks to Sir William Dawson. From the time of his coming to Montreal he had deplored that so few opportunities were offered to young ladies for cultivating the higher kinds of education. In the pamphlet of 1870, already referred to, he speaks of the advisability of raising the standard of girls' schools by extending to young women the privileges of the University, arguing that: "The true civilization of any people is quite as much to be measured by the culture of its women as by that of its men." The result of Sir William's exertion was the formation of the Ladies' Educational Association, on the model of the one in connection with Edinburgh University. To the classes in this organization which were large and enthusiastic, lectures were given by the Principal and many of the professors of the University.

The founding of the Girls' High School in 1874 with the admission of its pupils to the matriculation examinations of the Faculty of Arts led to the desire on the part of certain young women to pursue their course of studies further. In accordance with the rule before observed at McGill, the intellectual want appeared earlier than the wherewithal to supply it. A deputation of pupils from the Girls' High School waited on Sir William, and sought admittance to the College, when the absence of means seemed to make compliance with their request an impossibility.

The turning away of eager students was never a course of action favored at McGill, even when circumstances were most untoward, nor was it the course intended here. The wishes of authorities as well as students were met when the Hon. Donald A. Smith came forward with his offer of \$50,000 for the endowment of a special course for women, to extend over the first two years in Arts. Subsequently this donation was increased to \$120,000, so that the course was extended to the senior years, and the degree of B.A. made available to students of the Donalda Department.

This new path in university work was not opened without comment on the part of the public, and the course taken by the principal was in some quarters misapprehended and criticized. Criticism vanished, however, before the success of the new organization