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EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

THE LATE MR. PETER REDPATH.

Within a comparatively short space of time McGill has been called upon to mourn the loss of two distinguished men closely identified with its interests. In October last Sir John Abbott, a former Dean of the Law Faculty and a member of the Board of Governors. was removed by death ; and now that noble benefactor, Mr. Peter Redpath, has passed away. Those who were present at the opening of the New University Library last October, in which Mr. Redpath took part, apparently in good health and strength, will be surprised to hear of his unexpected death at his seat in Chislehurst, Kent, only two weeks ago. The deceased gentleman has always taken a foremost part in the charitable and educational works of the City. For some years he was President of the General Hospital and a Director of the Bank of Montreal. His work in the Fraser Institute is also well known. More particularly his name has been closely connected with McGill through his princely donations. In 1880 the Redpath Museum was presented by him to the University, and he expended upon it more than \$10,000 additional to place it on an efficient basis. Last October he made a formal gift of

the magnificent Library, at the opening of which Lord Aberdeen took a prominent part. This building in point of convenience and artistic taste is probably unrivalled on the continent. The noble reading-room with its carved timber roof and stained glass windows may well be termed "a thing of beauty and a joy forever," a fit casket for the treasures it contains. Besides these more notable gifts, Mr. Redpath endowed a Chair of Natural Philosophy in 1871 with the sum of \$20,000, and gave liberally to other departments of the University. About 3000 handsome volumes on historical subjects also came from his liberal hand. The memory of such a man as this will be cherished so long as McGill itself shall stand. Not only will his fame be carved in stone till the end of time, but, more important still, the inspiration derived from the contemplation of the great literati of the world will have an effect coeval with Eternity itself. Such men as Mr. Redpath are scarce, and their loss is deeply felt. His memory will always be green in Montreal. All will feel the greatest sympathy with Mrs. Redpath and the relatives.

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THE RESULT OF THE PRIZE COMPETITION.

Those who took part in the recent literary competition started by the FORTNIGHTLY will doubtless by this time be full of anxiety to hear the result. On another page will be found the official report of the judges. Five stories were handed in. None of these were considered worthy of the first prize, inasmuch as they did not come up to the standard which might have been expected from such a body of students as those at McGill. The second prize, ten dollars, was awarded to Mr. Wilbert B. Mowatt, B.A., of the Faculty of Medicine, for his story entitled "A Camp Story of the New Brunswick Lumber Woods," which will be found in the present issue. It is regrettable that many more were not interested enough to compete. The money value to be obtained was not great, but nevertheless not to be despised as things go nowadays. Apart, however, from this aspect of the case, the writer himself is a distinct gainer by the effort, even should he not be so fortunate as to secure the first place. It may not be given to everyone to be facile princeps in everything he undertakes, but it is certainly better for the individual tc have tried and failed rather than never to have tried at all. Success is only to be gained at the cost of repeated failure.