

THE UNIVERSITY REPORT.

The annual report for 1889 shows a marked and encouraging degree of progress. All the Faculties have been on the alert. Among generous gifts to be recorded, the John Frothingham Principalship Fund of \$40,000, supplies a long-felt need; and the Thomas Workman bequest of \$117,000 has provided for a department of Mechanical Engineering in Applied Science.

The Medical Faculty has opened a subscription for a memorial fund to its late Dean, Dr. Howard, whose death was chronicled last year.

The Veterinary College has been annexed to the University, and forms a new Faculty. Some graduates in Law are endeavouring to set on foot a scheme to secure an endowment for the Law School.

Lectures in Sanitary Engineering have been added in Science, and also, though not mentioned in the report, an Examination in Canadian History in Arts.

Music is now a definite study at McGill, with Prof. Bohrer as director, Prof. C. J. Cameron and Sir Donald A. Smith defraying expenses in the men's and women's classes respectively.

A number of practical schemes for extension are on foot. The new building for the mechanical workshops will possibly be commenced in the spring. It is pretty generally known, too, that before many years the Donalds Department will have a local habitation of a more commodious character than its present rooms in the East Wing. McGill will have the honor of realizing the long-talked-of idea of Botanic Gardens. Already a portion of the grounds containing valuable shrubs and trees has been enclosed, and a pond for aquatic plants prepared. It is proposed shortly to solicit subscriptions for a conservatory to be erected in the garden.

A new Library, with capacious reading-rooms; a Gymnasium on the grounds; a Dining Hall for students; these are among McGill's greatest needs. And we believe that they will all be soon forthcoming. Our University wisely aims at concentration. Proceeding with caution, she has gradually gathered within her circumference new Faculties, additional buildings, affiliated schools. Of such a course extension is the natural outcome.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

The proposed new College at McGill for the accommodation of women students is to be called "The Royal Victoria." With all due honor and respect for the Sovereign who, for more than half a century,

has ruled wisely and well over Britain and her dependencies, we cannot but utter a protest, however feeble, against the prevalent custom of calling by her name every second public institution that requires to be named. Here in Montreal are: Victoria Bridge, Victoria Square, Victoria Street, the Victoria Rifles and their Armory, Victoria University, with which, no doubt, the College will be confounded, and the Victoria Hospital in course of erection; the Victoria Lacrosse, Football, and Hockey Clubs, and Victoria Rink; not to speak of the thousand and one Victoria Laundries, Dye-works, Orchestras, and Societies of less importance. The city's great hotels are the Windsor and the Balmoral. The Queen's Hall in the Queen's Block, Prince of Wales' Terrace, and Wellington Arcade, are objects of interest.

And now another item will be added to the list: Victoria College of McGill University. It will not make the slightest difference to the Queen that her name forms one more landmark in the vast Dominion of which she knows only by hearsay. Nor will it stimulate the students to higher aims that their home bears the great and good title of Victoria; for its very familiarity has bred, if not contempt, at least indifference.

In pointing out an evil, one is supposed to suggest a remedy. Far better would it be, then, for the College to tell posterity of its generous founder, as: Sir Donald Hall or Donald Smith College (we protest against *Donalds*). Or, perhaps, as intended for women, it should have a woman's name. Then there are three centuries of women who have lived and worked for Canada, from whom to choose. It would be well to raise a memorial to some of these, which might inspire Canadian women to do as they have done. Again, there are names of places. Indian names are always euphonious and characteristic. Or, how would Royal Mount College sound? or Laurentian College? Either name is fraught with associations to McGill.

However, Royal Victoria College has its name already, if nothing else, and that it will in all likelihood retain when the more solid constituents are forthcoming. But new buildings and institutions are no rarity in Montreal or in Canada, and the question constantly arises what they shall be called. Complaints are sometimes made that the best positions in this country are given to Englishmen, while the claims of Canadians are passed by. Here is a similar case. British proper names are constantly being forced upon the Canadian public where, in most cases, a National name could be used with far more effect and individuality. And for this cause our