

# UNIVERSITY GAZETTE

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## University Gazette.

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### ANNOUNCEMENT.

The fourth number of the "University Gazette" will contain a Sonnet by Professor Roberts, of whom William Sharpe, in "Sonnets of this Century," says—"He is indisputably foremost among the poets of Canada." Steadman, also, the well-known poet, and author of "Victorian Poets," awards Professor Roberts the palm among Canadian poets.

The same number will contain an article from the able pen of Mr. Hy. Mott, on the "Alleged Anti-Poetic Tendencies of the Age." Mr. Mott claims that poetry can never die out, and Professor Roberts unconsciously advances, by his Sonnet, an unanswerable argument in Mr. Mott's favour.

### Editorials.

#### UNIVERSITY LECTURE.

The deliverance of Sir Wm. Dawson, in the annual University lecture, is looked upon as the sounding of the key-note of Protestant education in this Province, to be heard alike by friends and opponents. Last year it was devoted to a discussion of the question at issue between the two systems, but in the lecture which was delivered on Wednesday last, a broader plan was followed, and he contented himself with outlining the history and course of the University since its foundation. We are unable to publish the text of it, though it is rich in its suggestiveness, and inspiring from its recording of deeds of devotion and self-sacrifice; it is the most succinct text that has yet appeared, and gives a true view of the long fortune of McGill, with its struggles and successes. It appears most appropriately at this time, when the generation is passing away which guarded her interests so faithfully, for of the original band who constituted the first Board of Governors under the new charter, not one remains—Sen. Ferrier being the last to go. The teachers composing the staff at that time are now represented only by the Principal and Dr. Howard, and one or two others, who have long since retired from the field of active work. Between then and now ten generations of students have flowed, and many of her spiritual children do honour to their *Alma Mater*, which alone of Canadian Universities had an origin in private endowment. The early history is instructive; it shows the same state of affairs as at present—persistent opposition on the part of one section of the people to any system of Governmental education, and an apathy on the part of the other. But the sagacious Scotchman was not to be outdone, and McGill University is the outcome of his well-placed endowment, without even the help of the public grant made at that time to the colonies. In such a social condition as then existed in Canada, it is strange that the idea of a University should have arisen; as early as 1787 an enlightened agitation was on foot, but it was strangled in its cradle by the energetic vigilance of its opponents. In addition to this, there was the inspiring presence of another educated Scotchman—Mr. Strachan—who was interested in