

## Science.

### THE DOUGLAS TUTORSHIP.

**I**F an outsider were to ask the question: 'Wherein lies Queen's greatest strength?' he would probably be told: 'In her graduates.' It is the active interest of those who have left these halls that has caused the phenomenal growth of this University and the affiliated institutions. Prominent among the graduates of Queen's is Dr. James Douglas, who won his B.A. in 1858. The direction his career has since taken was, at least, partially accidental. Certain investments made by his father in copper properties in Quebec led him into the mining business. In time he became the manager of some of the largest copper mines of America and now he is recognized as the greatest authority on copper on this continent.

Dr. Douglas has been an excellent friend to Queen's and the School of Mining. His latest gift to the University was the conditional endowment of the chair of Colonial History. This session he has established in the School of Mining student tutorships. This is a system by means of which small groups of freshmen are put under the supervision of certain picked juniors and seniors, who try to solve the difficulties of the newcomers and to teach them how to study. The plan promises to be a success. The subjects chosen for the experiment are Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry, in each of which the student may have two hours a week of coaching. The idea of this tutoring system originated essentially with Dr. Douglas. The active interest which he thus shows in the personal welfare and advancement of the students of the School of Mining, and especially of the freshmen coming into a new atmosphere and undertaking work in a way not at all familiar to them, indicates that Dr. Douglas has not forgotten the days when he was a student at Queen's.

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The departure of Mr. Geo. J. McKay, for South Africa, was the occasion of a very characteristic Queen's gathering in the "Mill," last Friday morning. The Final Year Muckers and Geologists, in shirt-sleeves and overalls, gathered round Mr. McKay and presented him with an address and a Gladstone bag; the one setting forth in a few well selected words the esteem in which they hold him, and the other as some slight token of their regard.

Mr. McKay thanked the students very warmly for their good wishes and assured them that it caused him real sorrow to sever his connection with the School of Mining.

The meeting broke up with three rousing cheers led by "Henry" and the Muckers dispersed to their crucibles and shine tanks while the Geologists returned to their paleozoic researches.

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For several years now, no papers have been presented to compete for the prizes offered by the Engineering Society. It is pleasant to note that this year the required number, five, are in the course of preparation. Any more who may enter the field will be very welcome.

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Prof. S. F. Kirkpatrick (assigning topics for student lectures)—"On Nov. 17th we will have Bradley on the pot-wast."