

most stable foundation on which their future success and satisfaction can be erected, the Faculty has also proved that these objects are more attainable by requiring a curriculum of four sessions, over which the pupil's studies may be divided and renewed than when a shorter attendance is demanded. The ambition to pass too early, when gratified, has often reflected injuriously on the means instrumental in its encouragement, and has been deplored, when too late to be repressed, in consequence of painful experiences of public distrust from personal incompetency.

The lectures upon the various branches have been so modelled that they present as perfect an arrangement as those of more favored institutions in Europe. Not only thereby are the facilities for acquiring information increased, but, furthermore, the student is saved from the difficulties which more restricted sources must entail in an endeavor to communicate as much in a less time, and by fewer aids. The necessity, also, for a long residence in foreign parts ceases to be indispensable to native students. The custom that formerly prevailed among Canadians of "going home" to graduate, is now superseded by their at once graduating here, and then "going home;" the first method is not now required, and by the second, more privileges and attentions in the way of individual courtesies are secured. The parity of advantages is most apparent in the case of the colleges of Great Britain and Ireland, where McGill College graduates have, upon presenting themselves for additional honors, not experienced any impediment nor found additional study required, when to qualify for these distinctions has needed an equal curriculum of study.

The only change made since last year has been in regard to Natural History. Gentlemen beginning their studies after the 1st May, 1857, are required to attend one course of Botany and one of Zoology. These classes are in the Faculty of Arts, and may be pursued in any session that may be most convenient. Not more than a general acquaintance with them will be expected, and it will be sufficient to afford proof of this by certificate, as no test examination on either will be demanded of candidates for the degree of M. D., from whom no additional requirements will be sought to those of former years.