

# UNIVERSITY GAZETTE

Vol. XL]

MCGILL COLLEGE, MONTREAL, FEBRUARY 22ND, 1888.

[No. 8.

## University Gazette.

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We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by correspondents.

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### Editorials.

#### A UNIVERSITY DAY.

What McGill needs is a University Day. That is our proposition. Let us proceed to unfold it.

McGill is the centre of educational life in this Province, and especially in this city. Of that fact there can be little doubt. Being, then, the centre of culture, she should be looked upon as such, and as such respected. Yet we question if her influence is felt,

either as widely or as powerfully as it might be, or as her claims entitle it to be. Instead of being the institution of Montreal *par excellence*, she is only an institution. While the people of the city and Province are proud of her, they are not as proud as they should be. We do not quarrel with her merits here, but with the acknowledgement those merits receive. Neither would we have the readers of the GAZETTE infer for one moment that we hold in slight regard the many and munificent gifts she has received, or the appreciation which prompted them. We are speaking here merely of the esteem in which the University is held by the general public.

Moreover, is there not a lack of *esprit de corps* among her graduates as such. Not that they do not love her, but that they do not love her enough. McGill has bestowed on them all she had to give, and yet their interest in her and on her behalf is sometimes almost a vanishing figure. And why? We answer, McGill needs a University Day.

Here, then, without further delay, is our plan. We state it, for convenience, as if it were already *un fait accompli*.

A day is set apart every year, say towards the end of January. Lectures in all the faculties are discontinued. In some suitable building, either in the University or elsewhere, a large meeting is held. All the professors, all graduates, all students of the University are invited. A limited number of tickets, say five hundred, are placed at the disposal of the general public. Music. Lights. Refreshments. Speeches. McGill has her gala day. From many places come her graduates to shake hands with their old class mates and talk of bye-gone times. Words of kindly greeting and good wishes are heard on all sides. Professors doff their gowns and don their smiles, as they hold converse with pupils old and new. Benefactors gaze upon the glowing scene, and their generous hearts are warmed and quickened. A few serious words are spoken by those who best know how to speak them. Does not this, we ask, satisfy a want long felt and supply an acknowledged need?

We understand that some such institution did once exist in McGill, and that it was a very popular one. In so high appreciation was the Founder's Festival held, that twenty dollars were freely offered for a ticket. If such be the case, why should not the in-