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EDUCATION.

THE COLLEGES OF CANADA.

II.

The McGill University.

(Concluded from our last.)

The administration of the affairs of the University under its amended charter, is entrusted to a Board of Governors, appointed by the Government. His Excellency the Governor General or the person administering the Government, is the Visitor. The educational affairs are conducted by the corporation, consisting of the Governors, the Principal, the Deans of the several Faculties, the Rector of the High School and three fellows elected by the convocation. Under the corporation, the Principal has the general executive administration of the University and the Faculties have authority to frame and enforce regulations for their students.

Sixteen scholarships entitled to free tuition in the Faculty of Arts, have been placed at the disposal of His Excellency the Governor General. Eight other scholarships are in the gift of the Governors, and a number of others have been founded by gentlemen contributing to the endowment fund and are in their gift. Prizes and honorary diplomas are awarded to meritorious students, and a gold medal for the highest proficiency in the subjects forming the undergraduate course, has been founded by Henry Chapman, Esquire.

The institution is chiefly supported by rents from real property, fees of tuition, interest of endowment fund and parliamentary grant. The endowment fund originated in a scheme prepared by the Governors in November 1856. It offered to donors of £50 or upwards admission to the College library, museum and grounds; to donors of £150 and upwards the right of presentation to a perpetual free scholarship, or endowing one already established to have such professorship called by his name, and to present to such number of scholarships as might be agreed on in the Faculty to which such professorship may be attached. This scheme was confirmed and acted upon at a public meeting called on the 6th of December 1856, a day which will ever be a bright day in the calendar of McGill College. The meeting was presided over by the Hon. Peter McGill. Hon. Judge Day gave an interesting historical sketch of the institution, and many eloquent speeches were made, which however elegant in style and forcible in argument, were undoubtedly surpassed by the munificence of the subscriptions immediately raised. The Hon. John Molson and his two brothers, Thomas and William Molson, Esqs. subscribed £5000 toward a chair to be called "the Molson Chair of English Literature." J. G. McKenzie, Ira Gould, John Frothingham, and John Torrance, Esquires, subscribed each of them £500. Other subscriptions followed, averaging between £150 and £300 and in a few days a sum of £15,000 was raised. This is certain an act worthy of the good example shown by the late James McGill, and by its consummation, will reflect upon the mercantile community of Montreal, imperishable renown.

This great and successful effort as well as the vigorous impulse imparted to the several branches of the institution, and the adding of new and important departments, is chiefly due to the talents, industry and persevering labor of the present Board of Governors and of their Principal, J. W. Dawson Esquire.

As we have stated, the two first Principals were the Ven.