

last we are to have a Gymnasium and one that will be a credit to the University." The Science department was badly in need of workshops and so it was decided to erect a building which would serve the double purpose of Mechanical Laboratory and Gymnasium. During the summer of 1896 this building was erected. The basement was divided, the middle floor was set apart for mechanical purposes and the top floor as a Gymnasium. This was left as one room 75 ft. x 31 ft. inside, with walls 10 ft. high at the side and 22 ft. in the middle. For three years the students were left in possession, but by 1899 the number of Science students had so increased that the University authorities were compelled to take over the upper story to get additional room for the mechanical department. In return however they put aside nearly one thousand dollars as a nucleus of a Gymnasium Fund. This fund was steadily increased through the efforts of the Gymnasium Committee of the University Council, Messrs. W. F. Nickle, J. M. Farrell, and N. R. Carmichael.

Each year the question of a new building was discussed without much advance being made, until in 1901 it was decided that definite steps should be taken towards the erection of a new Gymnasium. Subscription lists were circulated and considerable progress made. Just at this point the Principal's request for a Convocation Hall from Frontenac County was refused. To fill this breach the students decided to drop the Gymnasium scheme for a time and turn their attention to raising money for Grant Hall. In 1905 the Gymnasium scheme was revived by the A.M.S. a committee was appointed which worked for some time gathering data but their labors proved to be in vain, as the Finance Committee of the Trustees made the request that the Gymnasium scheme be shelved for still a little longer, this time in favor of the Endowment Fund. Last spring, however, the Athletic Committee felt that the need for a Gymnasium was so great that it could not longer be put off. The Finance Committee of the Trustees were consulted and when their consent was obtained the Committee reported to the A.M.S. recommending that immediate steps be taken towards the erection of a new Gymnasium. This was approved by the A.M.S.. The students were at once canvassed and as the response was spontaneous and generous the Committee proceeded to erect the Gymnasium. On April 25th the first sod was turned with appropriate ceremonies. Justice McLennan, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, on behalf of the University authorities dedicated for gymnasium purposes the site staked out between the Medical building and the rink. The Chancellor, Sir Sandford Fleming, turned the first sod, after which short addresses were given by Principal Gordon, Mayor Mowat and Dr. Armstrong, Moderator of the General Assembly. Building operations were at once proceeded with under the supervision of Professors Kirkpatrick and McPhail and pushed forward with all possible speed; the result is the splendid building of which we are all so justly proud.—*W. H. M.*