



JOURNAL OF EDUCATION.

Volume II.

Montreal, (Lower-Canada) February, 1858.

No. 2.

SUMMARY.—**Education:** The Colleges of Canada.—The McGill University, by Hon. Pierre Chauveau, (to be continued.)—A word about lying.—Cousin Anna by T. S. Arthur.—Notes of lessons: The lungs.—Rules for making expert Arithmeticians.—Catechism on methods of teaching, (to be continued.)—Remedy for irregularity of attendance.—Give your children books.—Poetry: The teacher's grave.—**Official Notices:** Civil service of the East India company.—**Editorial:** St. Mary's College.—Teachers' associations.—**MONTHLY SUMMARY:** Miscellaneous intelligence.—Educational intelligence.—Literary intelligence.—Scientific intelligence.—**OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS:** Table of the distribution of the supplementary aid to poor municipalities for 1857.—**ADVERTISEMENT.**—Wood Cut: Portrait of the late Hon. James McGill.

EDUCATION.

THE COLLEGES OF CANADA.

II.

The McGill University.

In speaking of the Laval University and of the Seminary of Quebec—of which the former is but a necessary extension or development—we had to enter at length in the biography of the venerable Father of the institution, who not only gave it all he possessed, but lived as it were for his college, went himself through the numerous and severe trials which it had to encounter, and notwithstanding his generous efforts left it when dying in a precarious condition. It is not so with the McGill University. If we may use the expression, it was the posthumous child of the benevolent man who endowed it, and who, if he has not had the privilege of seeing the realization of his noble wishes in the present creditable organization and successful working of the institution, has been spared, on the other hand, the pain of following the many and long protracted crisis of its infancy.

Mr. McGill was a native of Glasgow, (Scotland) having been born in that city on the 6th of October, 1744. He came to this country at an early age, and engaged immediately in mercantile pursuits. On the 2d of December, 1776, he married Charlotte Guillemain, daughter of the late Guillaume Guillemain, in his life-time councillor of the King of France in Canada, *lieutenant-général* of the admiralty of Quebec,

and judge of the Court of prerogatives, widow of the late François Amable Trottier DesRivières.

He was successively member of Parliament for the city of Montreal, and member of the Legislative and Executive councils, colonel of militia and brigadier-general of the same during the war of 1812. During a great part of his life he lived in the house at the corner of the "Place Jacques-Cartier," on Notre-Dame street, which is now occupied by public offices. It was then one of the finest residences in Montreal.

Mr. McGill was distinguished for his charity, his sound practical judgment and his kindness of heart, and he mixed much in society both with the English and French, being connected with the latter by his marriage. He died on the 19th of December, 1813, being 69 years of age, in the city of Montreal, where he had resided ever since he came to Canada.

By his last will Mr. McGill "gave to the Honorable John Richardson and other trustees, his farm and land called Burnside, situated near the city of Montreal, containing about forty-six acres, together with the dwelling-house and other buildings thereon erected, upon the condition of their conveying the said property to the Royal Institution for the advancement of learning, established by an Act of the Parliament of the Province of Lower Canada, entitled "An Act for the establishment of free schools and the advancement of learning in this Province." But in case the said institution should not, within the space of ten years from the time of his decease, erect and establish on the said tract of land an University or College for the purposes of education and the advancement of learning in this Province, with a competent number of professors and teachers to render such establishment effectual and beneficial for the purposes intended, it was provided that the trustees should convey over the whole of the said property to Mr. François DesRivières, the son of Mrs. McGill by her first marriage. It was also provided that the college or one of the college of the