

All this, and much more, in connection with the financial prosperity of the University and the formation and growth of its statutes and regulations, has not been accomplished without much effort and many sacrifices, nor without the aid of many generous benefactors ; but it has been carried out with the utmost harmony, and our history has been unmarked either by misconduct or failure on the part of those holding offices in the University, or by any serious disorder or breach of discipline. The arrangements of the University have not been slavishly borrowed from those of any other ; but in every new enterprise, while giving due consideration to the precedents established by older institutions, we have had regard to the circumstances and wants of this country. We have thus often had the gratification to find that methods and arrangements introduced here, have commended themselves to the approval and imitation of other institutions, both in this country and abroad.

One special feature of McGill University, deserving of notice in this connection, is its independence, and freedom from denominational and sectional control. Founded by a private benefaction conceived in the broadest spirit of liberality, sustained by endowments given by benefactors of all denominations, and controlled only by the powers which have been reserved by the Crown in the Royal Charter, and which are exercised by the Governor-General as Visitor, it has been enabled to attain to a position and sphere of usefulness Canadian rather than Provincial, and to pursue its development without any external interference other than that imposed by its limited resources ; and, at this moment, it may be affirmed to realize, perhaps more than any other, the idea of a broad and liberal University for the whole Dominion, and deserving of aid and encouragement from friends of education, independently of creed and locality.

On behalf of the Corporation,

(Signed), CHARLES DEWEY DAY, LL.D.,
Chancellor.