

of the world. Nor are we apprehensive that the FORTNIGHTLY would suffer by the establishment of a McGill Monthly or Quarterly. The strong meat contained therein would be perhaps out of place in the FORTNIGHTLY, nor would it be contributed to this paper in any event; while that literary ability of a high order, which is at present lying dormant, but which undoubtedly exists in the higher intellectual circles of McGill, would be brought forth, to the great advantage of the students and the public, and to the honor of the First English University of the Province of Quebec.

It is to be hoped we will have a McGill Monthly or a McGill Quarterly, as well as a McGill FORTNIGHTLY before very long.

It only remains to extend our sincerest thanks to those graduates and others, friends of McGill who have contributed to our columns during the session. Assuredly to them may be attributed in large part such success as the FORTNIGHTLY has met with this year.

We especially appreciate the kindness of Principal Peterson, whose good nature has not unfrequently been tried, we fear, in the Board's anxiety to secure full reports of those lectures and addresses which have formed a most interesting feature of this year's volume. But all our requests have been most courteously acceded to.

And nothing less than ingratitude could prevent our mentioning Mr. Henry Mott, Assistant Librarian, who has never failed us, and to whose scholarly pen the FORTNIGHTLY from the beginning owes so much.

The FORTNIGHTLY next year will be under the control of the following Boards:

#### *Editorial Staff.*

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### CONTRIBUTIONS.

#### UNIVERSITIES OF HOLLAND.

There are four Universities in Holland. The Dutch think that this number is too great for their small

land with its population of but 4,600,000. I wonder what they would think of a country with only a few hundred thousand more inhabitants, in which there were more than a full dozen of universities. In Canada we have an extensive territory, it is true but, even allowing for this, our land seems to be much more blest with these institutions than is Holland.

The University of Groningen is in the town of that name to the extreme north of the land. The city is about the same size as Quebec. Its University was founded in the beginning of the 17th century. It has not achieved the prominence of the other similar institutions of the country, and its number of students is comparatively small, not exceeding as a rule 500. It enjoys, however, a fine reputation for Modern Languages, and is favored by those who expect to occupy positions as teachers in the public schools of an intermediate or higher grade. Within the last few weeks its professor of philosophy has accepted a call to Leiden, to occupy the chair vacated by Professor J. P. N. Land, who has been obliged to retire because of ill-health.

At Amsterdam is the most recently founded of the Dutch higher schools of learning. It dates from about twenty-five years since, and is not like the other Universities a "Rijks Universiteit," or National Institution, but is founded and supported by the city. This may seem a little strange, inasmuch as Amsterdam is the capital of the Netherlands. It is no doubt due to the fact that the other seats of learning are very old, and could not be closed up; while the Staats General did not see its way clear to assume the support of another such enterprise. Amsterdam Civic University is the second in size, and is attended by about 900 students. As might be expected, its Medical facilities are the great attraction to students. The other University towns are much smaller, and cannot afford the same clinical facilities as are to be obtained in a great place of 400,000 to 450,000 inhabitants. The number of medical students is great in proportion to that of the other faculties at Amsterdam itself, and also in relation to that found in the Medical lectures of the other Colleges. One of the interesting things in connection with the Philosophical Faculty of this University is the existence of a chair for the philosophy of Thomas Aquinas. It appears to be the one University where the Roman Catholic Church is officially recognized in such a way, and is, besides, the one where the same church has secured most foothold in the Theological Faculty, where they likewise have a professorship in Systematic Theology.

It is better to say, in this connection, that here the Theological Faculties of the Universities are arranged differently to those in Germany, where the Government provides for the teaching of all the Divinity