

UNIVERSITY GAZETTE

VOL. VIII.]

McGILL COLLEGE, MONTREAL, MAY 1st, 1885.

[No. 10.]

McGill University Gazette

DIRECTORS.

JEFFREY H. BURLAND, B. A. Sc., F.C.S., *President*.
G. J. A. THOMPSON, *Vice-President*.
G. C. WRIGHT, B.A., *Treasurer*.
H. S. McLENNAN, *Secretary*.
G. C. STEPHEN. | H. V. THOMPSON, B.A.
E. P. WILLIAMS. | T. W. LESAGE.

EDITORS.

W. H. TURNER, B.A., *Editor-in-Chief*.
S. FORTIER, *Assistant Editor-in-Chief*.
C. H. LIVINGSTONE. | W. DIXON, B.A.
R. J. ELLIOT.

The UNIVERSITY GAZETTE will be published fortnightly during the College Session.

Rejected communications will not be returned, to which rule no exception can be made. The name of the writer must always accompany a communication.

Editorials.

We must apologise to our readers for the late appearance of this issue. Our editors, all except two, were obliged to leave town while the work was yet in a very backward condition; and we have been further delayed by the failure to receive some promised reports of Convocations.

ADIEU.

With this issue we conclude the GAZETTE for another year, and with it terminates the connection of the present staff of editors with the paper.

In bidding farewell to our readers, the time is opportune, to revert briefly to our labours during the past year. In the first place we desire to say that we have based our line of conduct upon the belief: that a college paper exists, *in the main*, by and for the students: that it is the proper channel for the expression of their opinions; that if it be truly representative of the chief characteristics of its constituents it must be most liberal in its treatment of even the most diverse and perhaps even unpopular opinions; and that above all things it must be entirely independent of any control emanating from the University authorities.

Its chief aim,—indeed, we may say its sole reason for existing, is to furnish a medium for the ventilation of honest, many opinion, upon subjects which more or less intimately concern students and student life; and hence the evident objection to having any influence at work upon its Board of Editors, which might have a tendency to restrain this free expression of opinion.

Acting upon this belief, we have from time to time discussed in our columns, such questions as the action of the University in passing by our own graduates when selecting a lecturer in classics; we were in this matter actuated by no narrow-minded prejudice, our contention was, and still is,—select the best qualified man that can be got, but give our own graduates a fair field. We have discussed the doings of the Corporation in connection with the Higher Education of Women; and we have criticised the condition of the different Faculties. Our course in connection with these subjects has, we are aware, met with censure in some quarters; this was to be expected. In closing our labours however, and after a careful and thoughtful examination of the topics discussed by us, we would not now, having a conscientious regard to duty, that these subjects were either fewer in number, or of a character less pertinent to the interests of McGill.

That we have made no mistakes in their treatment, we are very far from claiming; probably the tone of some of our articles could be much improved. In the warmth resulting from the strength of our convictions, upon reforms which we have advocated, we may have expressed our opinions in such a way as to have given offence to some who, equally conscientious, did not see with us. But that we were moved by any but the most kindly feelings for, and deep and anxious interest in, the great institution of learning which, rightly claims our allegiance and deserves our gratitude we disavow. True gratitude does not blind its possessor to a benefactor's defects, nor is honest criticism inconsistent with the most intense loyalty; on the contrary, the former, in a matter of this kind, sharpens vision, and the latter deserves commendation.

And here, we are bound to say that while we deprecate language unduly strong, in condemnation of even the most flagrant abuses, or in the advocacy of even the most desirable of reforms, and feel sorry, if our zeal has led us into this error; we nevertheless, at the