

STATEMENT

Respecting the condition and Prospects of the UNIVERSITY OF MCGILL COLLEGE, Montreal; in support of its application for increased Legislative aid.

1. *Governing Body.*

This is at present composed as follows:—

Visitor—His Excellency the GOVERNOR GENERAL.

Governors—The Hon. CHARLES DEWEY DAY, *President.*

The Hon JAMES FERRIER.

The Hon. PETER MCGILL.

THOMAS BROWN ANDERSON, Esq.

DAVID DAVIDSON, Esq.

WILLIAM FOSTER COFFIN, Esq.

HEW RAMSAY, Esq.

BENJAMIN HOLMES, Esq.

ANDREW ROBERTSON, Esq.

CHRISTOPHER DUNKIN, Esq.

Principal—JOHN WILLIAM DAWSON, Esq., M.A., F.G.S.

Fellows—The Deans of the Faculties of Law, Medicine, and Arts:—

The Rector of the High School Department.

WOLFRED NELSON, Esq., M.D.

ALEXANDER MORRIS, Esq., M.A.

BROWN CHAMBERLIN, Esq., B.C.L.

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The Governors, Principal and Fellows, constitute the Corporation of the University.

2. *Professors, Teachers and Lecturers:—*

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ALEXANDER GRANT, Esq., Fifth Assistant Master.

C. F. A. MARKGRAF, Esq., French and German Master.

JAMES DUNCAN, Esq., Drawing Master.

JOHN FOLLENUS, Esq., Music Master.

3. Number of Persons taught :—

In the present Session (1855-6) the numbers of Students and Pupils are :

<i>Faculty of Law :</i>	Matriculated Students.....	15
<i>Faculty of Medicine :</i>	Matriculated Students.....	57
<i>Faculty of Arts :</i>	Matriculated Students.....	17
	Students attending Special Courses of Lectures 59, of whom 38 are Medical	
	Students studying Natural History in the Faculty of Arts. Deducting	
	these, there remain other occasional Students.....	21
	Total Students in University.....	110

Of the above 110 Students of the University, 3 only are under 16 years of age.

In the Faculty of Arts, there are sixteen free scholarships, at the disposal of His Excellency the Governor General, of which seven only are filled in the present session.

High School Department,

Total number of Pupils.....215

Of these 17 are under 8 years of age, and 15 are over 16 years of age : 30 are *Free Pupils* nominated by His Excellency the Governor General,—173 study Latin, 25 Greek, 150 French, 5 German, 44 Algebra, 34 Plane Geometry, 10 Solid Geometry, 44 Elements of Natural Philosophy, 190 History, 25 Music, 28 Drawing, and 210 receive religious instruction, not of a denominational character.

Summary,

Number of Students of University..... 110

Pupils of High School..... 215

Total number of persons taught..... 325

4. General Course of Instruction.

In the Faculty of Law the Governors have been enabled, by the appointment of Messrs. Lafrenaye and Laflamme as lecturers, greatly to enlarge the course of study, which now embraces the subjects of Civil Law, History of Law, especially that of Canada, Customary Law, Law of Real Estate, International Law, Criminal Law, and Commercial Law. On one or other of these subjects a lecture is delivered every juridical day during the session.

In the Medical Faculty the course includes Anatomy, Chemistry, Theory and Practice of Medicine, Principles and Practice of Surgery, Midwifery and Diseases of Women and Children, Materia Medica and Pharmacy, Clinical Medicine, Clinical Surgery, Practical Anatomy, Institutes of Medicine, and Medical Jurisprudence ; in all of which departments the large and efficient staff of this

Faculty enables it to give a very thorough training. The library and museum of this Faculty, previously large, have received important additions in the past year, and the students now enjoy the advantage of attending the class in Zoology and Botany in the Faculty of Arts.

In the Faculty of Arts the course of study extends over four years; and includes Classical Literature, Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, Logic, Moral Philosophy, Rhetoric, History, Zoology, Botany, Geology, the Oriental Languages, and French and German Literature. Since the commencement of the present session the following additions and improvements in the work of instruction and its appliances have been effected:—

- (1.) The appointment of Mr. Dawson to the office of Principal and to the Professorship of Natural History, in which class there are now 70 students.
- (2.) The appointment of Mr. Howe to the Professorship of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, and the extension and reorganization of that department.
- (3.) The delivery, by gentlemen connected with the institution, of a systematic course of Popular Lectures for the benefit of the public, as well as of the students of the University.
- (4.) The addition of over 700 volumes to the Library of the Faculty of Arts, which, originally very small, had not previously been added to, since the reorganization of the University under the present Board.
- (5.) The commencement of a Museum of Natural History for class instruction in that department.

The High School Department continues to maintain its reputation as a superior English, Mathematical, and Classical School; as is evidenced by its large number of pupils.

5. *Annual Cost of Maintaining the Institution, and Sources of Revenue.*

The following statements on these subjects are condensed from the accounts of the Secretary and Bursar, and show the general financial condition of the institution.

The income derived in the past year from rents of property and fees of tuition, (including arrears of about £200,) amounted to £1253 7s 8d, making, with the parliamentary grant of £500, a total income for the College of £1753 7s 8d. The expenditure and liabilities up to the close of the year were £2705 14s 10d, composed as follows:—

Salaries and work of education,.....	1429	3	4
Repairs and improvement of property,.....	380	9	8
Furniture and apparatus,.....	207	5	10
Insurance,.....	66	3	1
Books for Library,.....	423	10	0
Miscellaneous expenses,.....	190	2	11
	<hr/>		
	£2705	14	10

The expenditures on the property were absolutely necessary to its preservation and maintenance; and those on salaries, books, furniture and apparatus, have been managed with the greatest economy consistent with the proper performance of the work of education. Nor is it probable that in subsequent years this expenditure can be diminished. On the contrary, farther improvements of the buildings, property, and apparatus are urgently demanded. The salary of the Principal must be provided for; and the Law Faculty, which received in the past year only £100 in addition to the fees of students, should, since the enlargement of its staff of teachers, receive a much larger allowance from the funds of the institution, especially as it receives no direct aid from the Legislature.

It is also proper to state that in consequence of the reduction, some years since, of the parliamentary grant to the Medical Faculty from £500 to £250, a sum insufficient to meet the current expenses of the school, independently of any remuneration to the professors, it has been necessary to supplement this grant by appropriating the sum of £125 from the funds of the University, and had the financial condition of the institution been more flourishing, a much larger sum might have been beneficially devoted to the support of this very useful department.

The accounts of the High School Department shew an income from tuition fees of £1410. Its parliamentary grant is £282 4s 6d, as an equivalent for which, it educates thirty free scholars, nominated by His Excellency the Governor General. The expenditure having amounted to £1859, it can scarcely be considered self supporting, and the salaries at present paid to the teachers are lower than we consider to be desirable.

The institution is still burdened with debt; the sum of £750 being required to complete the amount of £4000, asked for in the memorial of the Governors in 1854, for the purpose of liquidating the debts then due. The total debts and interest now amount to £4166 8s; and of the sum of £3250 granted by the Legislature, £2166 8s have been expended in payment of the smaller debts, or invested to meet the principal liability of £3000 borrowed for erection of buildings, and which by the terms of the agreement can only be repaid in full.

With respect to the prospective increase of income; since the present Board came into office, the receipts from property have been raised, by the sale of lands, from £400 to about £900; and much valuable property remains to be disposed of; but it cannot be immediately rendered available without sacrifices, which the Governors are unwilling to make, unless compelled to do so by the failure of the Legislature to give, in the mean time, that increased support to which the present and prospective usefulness of the institution so well entitle it.

While the institution has thus, with very limited and indeed inadequate means, attained to a very high standard of efficiency and public utility, its claims are farther enhanced by the following considerations which have been urged by the Governors in previous memorials to the government and Legislature.

1. The understanding on the part of the founder that his liberal endowment would be supplemented by the Legislature; an understanding sanctioned by various acts of the government. 2. The open and non-sectarian character of the institution, which enables it to take the rank of a Provincial University to which other institutions may be affiliated, and gives it the confidence of all denominations of Protestants in Lower Canada. 3. Its being directly amendable to the control of the Executive, and offering, under the patronage of His Excellency the Governor General, a large number of free scholarships. 4. Its possessing valuable real estate, which, if not forced into the market to meet the present necessities of the institution, may ultimately go far to afford the means of collegiate education in this province independently of aid from other sources.

The Governors are farther desirous of extending the benefits of the University, by the establishment of special courses of study in Civil Engineering, Agriculture, and Commerce; and are prepared to place at the disposal of the government, or of local societies, scholarships, entitling to a free education in these departments, more especially the agricultural. They are also prepared to do all that may be in their power, to establish a Normal School Department in connection with the University, or to offer to a Provincial Normal School the benefits and economy of management which would arise from its connection with the Faculty of Arts and High School Departments of the University.

It is much to be regretted that, since the commencement of the present year, the University has suffered a very serious loss in the destruction by fire of Burnside Hall, the building used by the Faculty of Arts and High School, with much of the furniture, apparatus, and specimens therein. Temporary accommodation has been obtained for these departments, and the course of instruction is going on as usual; but it is absolutely necessary that the building should be re-erected as soon as possible.

In order to enable the institution to maintain its high position, as the only non-denominational University in Lower Canada, and to enter with vigour on the new departments above indicated, as well as to repair the loss occasioned by the late calamitous fire, it appears absolutely necessary that the annual grant to the University should be considerably increased, and that farther aid should be given for the restoration of the building recently lost, and the liquidation of the remaining debt. The governors are fully convinced that the bestowment of such additional grants would, in the circumstances, be an act of wise and enlightened liberality, tending to advance greatly the interests of higher education, by husbanding for the benefit of the public the munificent endowment of the founder of this University, and at the same time rendering it immediately and largely available for the high purpose to which it was devoted.

*Statement of the
the first meeting
1856*

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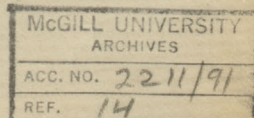
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Report 1886*