

Raukura  
Mat Makua  
Marselles

April 30-88-

My dear Father,

Your note of  
April 12 - reached me  
on arrival here this

morning -

I have read the memorandum  
in detail but for a few inaccuracies  
in some particulars. It is true

that the act of 86 provides

verbally & nominally for registration

of foreign and colonial degrees,

but this has not yet been

considered or put in force in

the case of any degrees, -

what has been decided is

that certain degrees can



2/ be registered as additional  
qualifications, by those  
already on the British  
register, as having registered  
British quals - It is this privilege  
only that has been conceded  
as yet to men holding  
qualifications from Belgium,  
Germany and some of the  
U.S. schools - Now is it  
unimportant, as giving a better  
standing - This privilege it is  
which has not as yet been  
conceded to Colonial degrees, -  
why I do not know, unless  
because they are regarded as  
not equal & as  
being derived from the same



Source -

of course if the direct  
 registration of say Mc Gill  
 diplomas could be obtained  
 it would be an immensely  
 greater boon, & would at  
 once open to graduation the  
 army, navy, Colonial Service  
 &c. on precisely the same  
 terms afforded, for instance,  
 to graduates of the Scotch &  
 Irish Universities, who now  
 swear into their vocations &  
 are very successful in them.  
 This is a privilege well  
 worth fighting for, & I see  
 no reason why a school like  
 Mc Gill, under royal charter  
 should not stand on the  
 same footing as Victoria Univer.  
 in Manchester, or Aberdeen



in Scotland. The contention  
would I fancy be best advanced  
on the University basis alone,  
apart from all provincial  
questions - I have little doubt  
that, in these days of Colonial  
ascendancy, an application  
for reprobation made in due  
form by the University &  
backed by the Visitor, would  
receive careful attention, & even  
if not at once granted, would  
serve to raise the whole  
question. Such a privilege  
bestowed on McGill would  
I need hardly say raise it at  
once to the position of the  
Canadian medical school  
& perhaps double its number  
of students. Such an application  
would at least be considered



in no narrow-minded  
& trade unioning spirit  
as there is no selfish local  
feeling in the matter  
amongst those concerned,  
but merely profound  
ignorance of the wants  
and aspirations of the  
outside Empire. As you  
know the impression at home  
is that local democracies,  
like local gov<sup>t</sup>, is for local  
use only, and to a certain  
extent, in Australia & N.Z.  
where the openings are too  
good to tempt men to  
leave, this is the case -  
But Canada stands on  
a different footing, much

more nearly resembling Scotland  
& Ireland, where every suc-  
cessful grammar school  
boy wants to become a  
professional man, and  
every peasant-proprietor  
wants his son to be a  
gentleman, and above  
manual labour: & where  
too the country is naturally  
poor and the openings  
comparatively few. The  
whole question is doubly im-  
portant now since the ser-  
vices have been reduced  
to competitive exam<sup>n</sup>  
standard, & since three fourths  
of those entering in the medical  
department at least, look to



it as a career and live on  
their pay -  
I need not speak of indirect  
advantages, of the opportunity  
of seeing the world and  
becoming Imperialist  
instead of merely local  
drudges -

A capital man I should  
think to consult on the  
subject would be Aiken (!)  
of Oxford, whom you know  
& whose son was in Montreal  
last summer, if you remember  
He is, I think, still president  
of the Medical Council, &  
would interest himself,  
I do not doubt, in the  
whole question -

At least one would not

be killed for asking, and  
nowadays any Colonial  
request is generally most  
favourably considered.

I have received a note  
from Anne enclosing  
notes from the children,  
which I shall not fail to  
answer -

Meanwhile loving re-

minders to all,

Your affectionate Son

Franklin