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McGill University.

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THE GRADUATES' SOCIETY OF MCGILL UNIVERSITY

HAVE determined, in commemoration of the completion by DR. DAWSON of his Twenty-fifth Year as Principal, to raise, with the assistance of their friends, a Fund of about \$30,000 towards the proper endowment of the Principalship, to be called

“The Dawson Principalship Foundation.”

As an investment of part of this Fund there may be erected within the College grounds a Principal's Residence, to which the name of “DAWSON” may be attached.

(1) This plan presents an object of a *University* nature, and it is therefore confidently expected that upon it will be concentrated the interest and contributions of the members of *all* the Faculties and their friends.

(2) It presents the recommendation that, as it is undertaken to mark the general appreciation of the present Principal and of his services to the University, the provision for all time for his office, by a foundation in his name, will be a memorial peculiarly fitting.

(3) Whatever is thus provided towards the separate support of this highest office of the University will release the general revenues for other and much needed purposes. This plan has therefore the merit of being a distinctly revenue-yielding one.

(4) By the erection of a Principal's residence, two desirable ends will be attained

- 1°. Better home accommodation will be afforded to Dr. Dawson than he enjoys at present, and to this extent the scheme allows a testimonial of benefit to himself—anything purely personal he has distinctly declined.
- 2°. The East Wing of the College Building, when no longer required for official residences will become available for conversion into Students' Lodgings—a purpose for which that Wing was originally intended,—a want long felt by the University and its students, as all Graduates, recalling their Undergraduate days, can testify.

MONTREAL, 12th April, 1880.

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# The Graduates' Society of McGill University.

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# The Graduates' Society of McGill University.

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Montreal, 12th April, 1880.

DEAR SIR,

As one holding the honorable title of a Graduate of McGill University, we address you to bring before your notice the appended memorandum of a scheme to commemorate the completion of Dr. Dawson's 25th year in the Principalship of the University.

It may seem unnecessary to mention to you how efficient have been the services of Dr. Dawson to the University, how faithful and self-sacrificing,—what was the condition of the College when he undertook the guidance of its affairs in 1855—the results which it has attained since then and its present position as to efficiency, and in the opinion of the country,—changes due in large measure to his energy and sound judgment.

To the cause of Education generally in Canada his services have been of the highest importance and his influence, in the Councils of the Province in this direction has been acknowledged as most beneficial.

But not only for his direct services to the University and to Education does the name of Dr. Dawson call out our enthusiasm on this anniversary. The position which he has gained by his original works and his discoveries has raised high before the world of science and literature the name of the University with which his is connected.

The Graduates' Society intended to invite Dr. Dawson to a public entertainment in September next, as being the date of completion of his 25th year as Principal, but found itself agreeably forestalled when he called the Graduates to gather round him at the University Banquet given by him on the 2nd April, to celebrate, with the conclusion of the academic year, the completion of his 25th Session. This was a most important event in the history of the College, for never were so many of her sons assembled at one time, and the re-union of those who had spent some of the best years of life at the University was grateful to all who had the fortune to attend.

In view of the approaching anniversary the Society had for sometime discussed several schemes for marking the event, but after mature deliberation and consultation with the Governors and tried friends of the University, the particular scheme mentioned in the accompanying memorandum was adopted as that which offered the greatest combination of advantages and attractions to all the departments of the University, and it was determined to launch the proposal at once by an appeal to the Graduates for their contributions.

It will add weight to the plan to state that it has the full and cordial approval of Dr. Dawson himself to whom it has been submitted. At his suggestion, the plan does not contemplate any addition to his present emoluments, though they are much below what they should be, if the College funds would permit. The salary which Dr. Dawson receives as *Principal* is unfortunately very

small, and would be quite inadequate did he not hold in addition the Chairs of Geology and Natural History—thus performing a large amount of professorial work in addition to fulfilling the duties of Principal. In case of a vacancy in his office, it would be a matter nigh impossible, as matters now are, for the Governors to provide a salary which would induce a competent new Principal to accept the office—for it is not to be expected that he could perform the duties of Principal and at the same time occupy one of the more important professional chairs.

To create a fund which may grow until upon a change in the office the revenue is required is the plan proposed.

The amount aimed at for the present is \$30,000, as a partial Endowment, but with the intention of carrying the scheme in time to a greater extent, and of making it subject to increase by donations of other friends of the University.

When it is considered that there are now nearly 1200 Graduates, it is thought that there will certainly be among that number

10	who will give	..	..	..	\$500	=	\$5,000	
20	" " "	..	..	..	250	=	5,000	
100	" " "	..	..	..	100	=	10,000	
100	" " "	..	..	..	50	=	5,000	
while in smaller sums, and from friends of Graduates,								
may fairly be expected at least							..	5,000
to complete the sum of							..	<u>\$30,000</u>

Let each Graduate think how much he owes to McGill University, and how much McGill owes to Dr. Dawson, and let each give liberally of what the education he has received has enabled him to earn.

The Society appeals to you hopefully for your subscription, and for the exercise of your influence on behalf of the scheme with your friends and with all who feel an interest in McGill, Education and Dr. Dawson.

On behalf of the Society,

L. RUGGLES CHURCH, *President.*

C. H. McLEOD, *Secretary.*

Much of this Circular may seem unnecessary to those who have been present at the preliminary meetings of the Society—or who had the fortune to attend the Principal's banquet,—but it has been thought advisable for the information of the many who were then absent, to refer to these matters at this length.