

schools shall be centres not only of teaching, but of elaborate original investigation upon such subjects as the causes of disease and the action of remedies. Who is not familiar with the profound researches of recent years upon the nature and causation of consumption, of diphtheria, of cholera? Such investigations must be carried on in laboratories, such as you have constructed here, and there should be in connection with every such institution a number of well endowed fellowships tenable for one year or longer, so that encouragement and support may be given to those scientific men who are able and willing to devote themselves to these researches. Does anyone question the practical value of these elaborate and costly studies, and the wisdom of expending large sums for the equipment and endowment of such original research? Happily the day has come when even in this practical country, there is a growing recognition of the importance of pure science, and of the influence of abstract scientific investigations upon our material welfare and progress. It might seem extravagant to provide spacious rooms, expensive outfit, and large endowment merely for the study of a few of the lowest and most minute forms of organic life. But it is not extravagant to assert that if such study led to the discovery of the true cause of any one of those great diseases it would be of more practical value to the world than all the gold fields of another California. Lastly, although we look with proud satisfaction on such buildings and laboratories and equipment as these, we must not remain contented. The progress of medical science is rapid and unceasing. New fields of investigation are continually being opened in this as in other branches of natural science; new methods of research are being introduced; enlarged facilities will continue to be required from time to time; and ere long other spacious buildings must be erected. But the achievements of the past and of the present are the sure guarantees of the future. We advance with increasing confidence because assured of the co-operation and support of an enlightened public sentiment. Here in Montreal, at least, such confidence may be most reasonably entertained; for no one can doubt that whatever are the just demands of education and of science in the future, they will be generously supplied by the fellow-citizens of McGill, of Redpath, of Mackay, of the Molsons, and of Donald A. Smith. (Loud applause.)

Hon. Chancellor FERRIER reviewed briefly the rapid progress made in medical education at McGill University, and contrasted the dingy rooms they were condemned to occupy only a few years ago with the palatial establishment now under their control. He congratulated the Faculty very heartily upon their new acquisition, and predicted that the next move would be towards the admission of female students.

The DEAN then called upon the Vice-Chancellor, Sir William Dawson. The distinguished Principal was received with tremendous cheering.

SIR WILLIAM DAWSON said—I have very much pleasure in congratulating the Faculty of Medicine on my own behalf and that of the University upon the progress which it has made, and especially upon the evidence of that progress in this building which we are met to take