

this subject, and may be considered to have the consent of that body to do so; but what I have to present is entirely my own independent, personal view of this matter, based on an intimate personal knowledge of the College throughout its history and a full understanding of all the questions involved.

For such a task, it may, perhaps, be allowed that I have some needed qualifications. For some forty years I have been familiar with the affairs and work of the College and with the officers and teachers therein. For thirty-five years I have been one of the teachers, and it now happens that of all the present professors I am the senior in years of service.

Some further qualification may also, perhaps, be allowed me, when I come to speak of laboratories and laboratory teaching, seeing that some time ago I spent eight months in the laboratories of the Medical Department of Johns Hopkins University, and should therefore know something as to what laboratories and laboratory teaching should be.

Now, I think we shall be the better able to weigh and appreciate this Carnegie Foundation report and the serious charges therein contained, if we inquire somewhat in detail into the circumstances and manner in which that report was obtained or arrived at.

Two delegates, Mr. Abraham Flexner, of New York, and another gentleman, Dr. N. P. Colwell, of Chicago, were sent by the Foundation to visit the Halifax Medical College and report upon it.

All the circumstances connected with their visit happened to prove very unfortunate for the success of their mission, that is, assuming that their mission was to gather up all

material and relevant facts bearing upon the subject of medical education at Halifax, and to present an accurate and just report.

In September, 1909, President Pritchett of the Foundation, sent a letter to Halifax intimating that a visit of delegates was contemplated, but stating no definite date for the visit.

It so happened that when, about the middle of the following month, the delegates arrived suddenly and unexpectedly in Halifax, Dr. L. M. Murray, the Pathologist and the Secretary of the Halifax Medical College, was absent in Montreal, and no officer of that College ever saw the delegates, or even knew of their arrival in Halifax until after they were gone.

When the delegates arrived in Halifax it was after a certain midnight, in fact about one o'clock of a Saturday morning—the day as you all know which is an off-day, or at best only a half day, in Halifax.

The following morning President Forrest, of Dalhousie University was informed of the arrival of Mr. Flexner and Dr. Colwell, the delegates, at the Halifax Hotel, and he with Dr. Lindsay, of the Medical Faculty of Dalhousie, promptly called upon them at the hotel.

Mr. Flexner asked such questions as he thought proper, which were duly answered.

The delegates, who were determined to leave the city by a morning train that afternoon, then paid a visit to Dalhousie University, the Halifax Medical College, the Victoria Hospital, and the Halifax Dispensary.

The whole rush performance was enacted in about four hours, and the delegates departed, apparently assuming that they "knew it all," though they had not consumed with a