

Adverting to the prize awarded to the successful Essay, although for the reason to which I have alluded it might scarcely seem correct strictly to apply to that award the principle by which such decisions are generally understood to be governed,—that of "*detur digniori*"; yet it may be said, in a spirit which will excite no feeling of jealousy in the breast of an unsuccessful candidate, "*Palmas cui configit ferat*." (I shall be pardoned the slight but necessary alteration in this quotation.) And to the hearers of those honorable badges, and to all their fellow students, I would say,—let them remind them in after-days of their great good fortune in having had their lot cast in a Province, in which education is so liberally promoted, and merit so nobly rewarded.

Neither will it derogate from the strength and purity of this patriotic feeling, to associate with it a grateful recollection of that distinguished individual, to whose active and enlightened patronage this noble establishment is so largely indebted; and by whose personal bounty this honourable, and therefore valuable, incentive to mental exertion on the part of the students, was conferred upon it:—I need not name "Sir HOWARD DOUGLAS."

Occupying *pro tempore*, as the Representative of my Sovereign, a post of such distinction as the Chair of this University, I do not affect to conceal from myself, what others cannot fail to perceive, that I have no pretensions to that high honor, other than those attaching to my official position. Nevertheless, if a deep conviction of the inestimable advantages of a liberal education, based upon, and sustained by, sound principles of religion and morality, with the most anxious desire to secure to the rising generation in this Province these great blessings by every means which my situation affords me, may be regarded as conferring upon me any claims to the confidence of those most interested in the prosperity of this establishment; to that extent, and on such grounds, I can confidently appeal for their support and good will.

In conclusion, I cannot refrain from warmly congratulating the inhabitants of this Province upon the possession of an establishment which, receiving the pupil at an early age, and upon moderate terms, is capable of conducting him, under able, sound, and admirably qualified instructors, to the moment when the business of active life is to commence; and of eminently fitting him, in point