

In 1854 I entered the college, then the old building on Sussex street. Bytown had not blossomed forth into Ottawa, the capital of Canada. No massive buildings, parliamentary or departmental, crowned Major's Hill, as it was then called. For that matter there were, so to speak, no buildings of any kind outside of the Cathedral and the Convent of the Grey Sisters. There were a few stores of great pretensions and small dimensions. There was not a gas lamp in the city, now a fairy land of electric lights, and the pedestrian, who had to travel by night, carried his lantern with its tallow candle for illuminating purposes.

But, what has all this to do with the college and its inmates, of whom there were then about seventy-five? Not much perhaps, but the material change that has taken place since, serves to make the approach to sad changes more easy. The question is not, who were my contemporaries, but, where are they? Alas! No need of conjuring up the Church ritual on Ash Wednesday; "Memento homo quia tu es pulvis, etc," The contemporaries have joined the great majority, and with one or two exceptions occupy their narrow limits in the city of the dead.

My only class-mate now living in the Dominion is His Grace Archbishop Duhamel, Chancellor of our University. His career has been brilliant and fruitful; his prudence is proverbial; the position he has achieved is of such prominence, that his name has been, more than once, mentioned in connection with the red hat of a cardinal. In the full enjoyment of physical health, his mind matured and richly stored, his heart beating in unison with every noble undertaking, he has, may it please God, a long period of administration before him, and, some day, a master hand will, no doubt, fitly chronicle his great achievements for the glory of the Most High and the benefit of Church and State.

Looking over the list of graduates, there is one name that may, safely, be said, to be illustrious. He was my friend, my honored leader in Dominion politics; he was the fourth Prime Minister of Canada. His name shall never be forgotten so long as, in our country, virtue is prized and disinterested patriotism ensures remembrance. "The life and work of the Right Hon, Sir John Thompson" is the title