

Faculty extended to me great encouragement. That man was the late Dr. Howard.

When, again, in 1884, after a more prolonged absence abroad, I took the bold, perhaps rash step, and certainly one unprecedented in this country, of wholly relinquishing medical practice for the teaching and culture of the department of Animal Physiology, amid much hesitation, indifference and lack of confidence, again one man with an insight into the importance of this subject for medicine, given to few, wavered not, but from the first supported both the subject and the teacher with that gigantic moral strength which I felt "like the shadow of a great rock in a weary land." No one in Canada has, directly or indirectly, so encouraged Physiology as the man that I venture to think will be known in future as McGill's great medical Dean.

But Robert Palmer Howard is gone!

I suffer from temporary discouragement and a feeling of apprehension for the future. A king may arise that knows not Joseph. I am overwhelmed with a sense of personal loss, loss to medicine, to the University, and to my own subject.

You will therefore understand why, were I worthy of such a theme, my feelings, so near are we to this recent awful bereavement, are not under sufficient control to warrant me in undertaking its treatment; and this is my reason for these personal references, which, inasmuch as they explain my course to-day, I hope you will pardon.

I shall therefore deliver the address I had prepared, and which was in type before the late Dean's illness began; and if I tax your patience somewhat by references to matters that I deem of great importance, I think I may at least assure you that my remarks will not be of the nature of an oft-told tale.

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Each of you is to-day like one who has been walking in a long but narrow avenue, bounded on each side by pleasant, though not greatly varied, scenery, stimulated to maintain a certain rather rapid pace by his leaders and fellow-travellers, and who, all of a sudden, finds himself about to part from those he has pleasurably accompanied. The avenue opens out into a boundless expanse, neither the nature nor the extent of which