

statutory convocation. For this and for other reasons this special convocation has been convened. It will generally be confined to the transaction of business connected with the Medical Faculty.

The Medical Faculty was formed in 1892. In April of that year the Royal College of Surgeons united with Queen's University so as to become an integral part of it. This Faculty has proved an unqualified success. Every year since its formation improvements have been introduced in the arrangements, and additional advantageous features for study are now contemplated. There is no diminution in the number of students—on the contrary there are additions, notwithstanding the higher fees charged, the expense of laboratories, increased hospital fees and the increased length of attendance, as well as the great efforts which have been made by the medical schools of Toronto and Montreal to centralize medical study in these cities.

The increase in the number of medical students is such as to demand further accommodation and one of the first additions required will be the erection of a new building for anatomical purposes.

If the Medical Faculty on its present basis has materially advanced and gained strength, it is with profound sorrow and regret that I am called upon to allude to very great losses which it has sustained. Within the last five years no less than five professors have been removed by death. The loss of each as it occurred, I need scarcely say, cast a deep gloom over all connected with the University. We greatly mourn the death of such as these taken away from a field of activity and usefulness in the prime of life and mental vigour. On this occasion it becomes my sad duty to pay tribute to their memory and allude in these few words to the loss suffered by the Medical Faculty in particular, and by the whole University.

If the Medical Faculty needs additional accommodation I may take this opportunity of mentioning that the same demand is felt by all the faculties; and how can it be otherwise when we consider the wonderful development and growth which has resulted in recent years?

If we examine the annals of the University it will be found that during the past eighteen years the students have greatly increased in numbers. Taking the Faculty of Arts, which is the central faculty of all Universities, both graduates and under-graduates have more than quadrupled since I first occupied this chair. It is easy to be seen therefore, that while we had ample space for our purposes when we entered the new building in 1880, it is no longer adequate for our needs. The splendid progress and expansion which I have referred to has

so crowded the class-rooms that we have actually reached the limit of accommodation in each of the four faculties, and if we contemplate an attendance in the future at all approaching the ratio of increase in the past, we must recognise the imperative necessity of additional space for the work to be performed. In the steady and gratifying progress year by year we may congratulate the University, and at the same time congratulate the country on the benefits conferred by this seat of higher education. May we not hope that some means may be found for supplying the much-needed accommodation so that our power for good may not be unduly restricted?

It is with no little satisfaction that I claim for this seat of learning a prominent position in the higher education of women. Here medicine was first taught them, and although other Canadian Universities have followed our example in opening medical classes for women, the first woman graduate in medicine received her degree from Queen's. In Arts, too, we have taken a leading part. Though our doors had never been closed to women, and they had attended classes, it was not till 1880 that women presented themselves for matriculation. In 1884 the first women graduated in this Province in Arts received their degrees from the University.

The very last person laureated in this hall was her Excellency the Countess of Aberdeen, on whom was conferred the honorary degree of LL.D. In what better manner could any University commemorate the Queen's Jubilee than by taking the initiative in a matter which so fully recognizes the claims of women. Who more worthy of the academic distinction than the greatly esteemed consort of Her Majesty's representative in the Dominion?

I have endeavoured to express the difficulty I experienced in thanking you for extending the period I have already so long had, the high privilege of presiding over this University. But what can I say with respect to the compliment added in the form of the portrait which has been executed? This act touches me deeply and I am painfully impressed by my inability to discharge the debt I now owe you. I will frankly confess that it is impossible for me to express my feelings as I would desire in respect to this additional evidence of your good will.

Standing before you to-day at the opening of another Convocation I feel that this is indeed an occasion which no man rightly constituted could regard with indifference, and I can only say that I appreciate most profoundly this crowning and graceful act of your kind thoughtfulness. I must, however, remove from my mind all personal consideration and view the gift from an official standpoint. As the head of the University, therefore, I accept the work of art as a memorial of one who for a long