

provide a building specially devoted to the purpose of Medical instruction. It was a bold undertaking, for a school only one year old, to put up such a building as we occupy to-day, but the promises of support were so general, that we felt justified in assuming the responsibility which its erection entails. It is not more than seventeen weeks since the first stone of the building was laid and its erection has taken place with wonderful rapidity. Although not yet out of the hands of the contractors, it is so far advanced, that the college work can go on without interruption. When completed it will be excelled by only one Medical School in the Dominion of Canada. Gentleman, I must close. Use the opportunities which will soon be presented to you, so that, when your period of training is over, and you leave these walls to begin the great battle with disease and death, you may be well armed and equipped for the contest. With moral principles strengthened by habits of industry and perseverance, with your intellect free from prejudice, clear seeing, well furnished with scientific and practical knowledge; with your faculties disciplined for the work you have to perform, you will show yourself not unworthy of this University or of that profession which is confined to no people and to no country, but whose object is the relief of evils common to the whole human family.

Do not, gentlemen, think that I have painted in too glowing colors the profession whose study you this day enter upon. Morally and intellectually I cannot over-rate it; and now, when toil and exertion is required, I would cheer and encourage you, by reminding you of the very great intrinsic gratification which these studies may afford, and of the nobleness of the objects for which they prepare you.

A late writer says "it is the fashion to decry our profession, to call it a poor, a degraded profession. If it be poor and degraded, is that the fault of the calling or of those who practice it? Is the art of healing in itself less noble, because its practitioners, too often unsustained by a consciousness of their own dignity, have not raised it to the place in society which it ought to hold? Poor it may be! Slighted it may be! but degraded it cannot, shall not be, so long as its foundation is science, and its end the good of mankind."

Montreal, 2nd October, 1872.

MONTREAL SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

SYNOPSIS OF THE INTRODUCTORY LECTURE DELIVERED ON THE 1ST OCTOBER, BY J. E. D'ORSENNENS, M.D.,
Professor of Chemistry.

After having spoken of the position attained by its professors, and of the experience acquired by

each in the particular branch they taught, and actually by the same men who accepted them at the foundation of the school, the learned lecturer remembered with delight some of the old pupils of the Montreal School of Medicine. Everywhere, said he, we see them in the highest positions as men of science and good physicians. Drs. Rottot and Brosseau, two of our old pupils, have been admitted with us. The medical schools of McGill and Victoria University, have had no other rivalry but that dictated by noble emulation, a national sentiment and real patriotism. The University of Bishop's College is another impetus, and each of these schools will make constant efforts to maintain the first place in society by the superiority of the pupils they will send forth. We hope to have this honor by the superior classical education which young men receive in our Canadian Colleges. When they leave these institutions after eight years of hard study devoted to classics and kindred sciences, they are apt to undertake the difficult and extended study of our profession. It is by the advantages of this classical education, that in medical instruction we can always distinguish our pupils, and foresee the future for them. Without calling upon the national sentiment and patriotism, interest ought to guide them within these precincts where they will hear spoken their maternal language; where seven or eight hundred French Canadian medical men have studied and learned their profession, scattered all over the country and foreign cities where a great number of whom are advantageously known. Seven of the professors of this school count more than twenty-five years' professionship, each in the same branch, which they teach to-day. Where is the school of medicine that can show the same record to-day? This long experience of the professors is applied to the Maternity, the Dispensaries, and the Hotel-Dieu, this large hospital where operations kind are practiced daily, and where clinical instruction (medical and surgical) is given. The pupils of this school always came out with honor before the college of Physicians and Surgeons of Lower Canada, when obliged to answer to its examiners before we had the power of granting degrees. From them they received, as well as from their professors, compliments and felicitations upon their success. At the conclusion of his lecture, Dr. D'Orsennens spoke of the place acquired for the erection of the medical school, opposite the Hotel Dieu, and of the necessary funds for building; thanks to the liberality and great interest that the Ladies of the Hotel-Dieu have always shown towards this institution. The lecturer was loudly applauded on its conclusion. After the lecture, the president,