

# THE MEDICAL CHRONICLE.

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## ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

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ART. I.—*Valedictory Address* to the Graduates in Medicine of McGill College, on their receiving the Degree of Doctor of Medicine and Surgery, conferred by Convocation, 4th May, 1854. By A. F. HOLMES, M.D., Professor of Medicine, and Dean of the Medical Faculty.

GENTLEMEN,—At the close of our mutual labors, and before we sever the relation so long subsisting between us, let me address to you a few words. I have said “sever relation;” I do not mean sever our connexion, for that, I hope, may become still closer by the new relationship in which we now are about to stand.

When you first placed yourselves under our direction, you had two objects in view—instruction and graduation—the former as the means of attaining to the latter; the latter as a testimonial of successful pursuit of the former. One of these objects, viz., graduation, it was in our own power to bestow; the other required your active co-operation; for no matter what amount of instruction we had in our power to give, it would have been of little avail had not your minds been prepared and ready to receive it. Pursuing, then, the same object, whether as instructors or instructed, we might naturally be expected to, and I trust have, become mutually interested in each other; so that while you in after life, may look back with satisfaction on the period of study spent with us, and with kindly wishes for the prosperity of your alma mater, we may hereafter, in hearing of your eminence in your profession, rejoice that you “Hail from McGill College.”

The course of study which you have pursued is an arduous one. Four years, when looked forward to, seem a long period, but your own experience has taught you that it is by no means too long to conquer the various topics comprised in a good medical education. And yet, after all your labor, whereunto have you attained? You have only, as it