

THE
MONTREAL MEDICAL JOURNAL.

VOL. XVII.

APRIL, 1889.

No. 10.

Original Communications.

VALEDICTORY ADDRESS

DELIVERED TO THE GRADUATES IN MEDICINE OF MCGILL
UNIVERSITY, APRIL 1ST, 1889.

By WESLEY MILLS, M.A., M.D., L.R.C.P., LOND.,
Professor of Physiology, McGill University, Montreal.

Gentlemen, Graduates in Medicine :

Some of my colleagues, with more confidence in my power of rapid preparation than I have myself, suggested that I should avail of this occasion to speak of the achievements and character of our late Dean. But when one has, within a few days, read one thousand pages of foolscap in the form of examination papers, and finds several hundred more confronting him, he is not worth much for any high undertaking.

Canada's greatest physician—the "grand old man" of the medical profession in this country—has passed away! Would that I could speak of him worthily, but the task is too mighty for me! But even were I competent, there are strong personal reasons which would render it impossible. A friendship beginning in profound respect on my part when I had the privilege as a student of sitting under the magnificent lectures of the late Professor of Medicine, and feeling the ennobling influence of the man; and on his part, the fancied or real discovery in me of—I know not what,—a friendship deepening with the rolling years has suddenly been dissolved.

When, in 1881, after being abroad, I settled in this city and began my career as a very subordinate and almost unrecognized teacher in McGill University, one man in the Medical