

most laborious and indefatigable worker. As Dr. Holmes' name is so intimately blended with this School of Medicine as the foremost work of his life, a history of the one embraces also that of the other.

About the year 1813 or 1814, two young men left this city to pursue and complete their medical studies in Edinburgh, then, and until very recently, the foremost medical school in the world; and if that school does not now possess the same elevated character, it is solely due to the greater practical advantages which are conferred upon the student by the more extensive hospitals of London. These two young men were Andrew Ferdinand Holmes and John Stephenson; and thither they repaired to obtain that knowledge of their profession which could not, at that time, be secured in this country. During their residence in the Mother Country, they took advantage of their opportunities, and spent a portion of their four or five years' residence in visiting Dublin, London, and Paris, following the Hospitals and attending the lectures in each of these celebrated cities. On the 2nd August, 1819, Dr. Holmes graduated at the University of Edinburgh; and, if I mistake not, Dr. Stephenson did the same. They returned, I believe, together to this country the same year, and established themselves in practice; the subject of our sketch having entered into partnership with his former preceptor, the late Dr. Arnaldi, which continued for about five years.

It was about this time, that, recognising the difficulties which they themselves encountered in their own professional education, and desirous of smoothing the path for other young men who wished to study and practice, a combination was effected between four of the then principal physicians in this city, for the purpose of giving courses of lectures on the most important of the branches of medical knowledge. These four physicians were Drs. Robertson, Caldwell, Stephenson, and Holmes; and in 1824 was delivered, under the name of