

"The Class of 1882" was responded to by Mr. J. W. Cameron.

Mr. J. W. CAMERON said: In replying to the toast just given in honor of the graduating class of 1882, I cannot refrain from saying that, had I anticipated the arduous nature of this task, I would assuredly have declined the honor of acting as their representative on this happy occasion. I am sure that the company here assembled will fully understand this statement, and will appreciate my motives of extreme diffidence and delicacy, when I inform them that our class is composed of somewhat strange and incongruous elements. Some of our number, Sir, are short men—and yet with a rotundity of form which caused a celebrated author to exclaim:

"What tempest threw this whale ashore at *Bishop's*?"

Others again are tall, very tall, and these like Cassius of old have a "lean and hungry look, they think too much." A few of our number rejoice in married life, and already have become

"Most potent, grave and reverend seigniors,"

while those that remain are unfortunately single like myself, with no cheering smile to greet them after the day's laborious duties are finished, and, what they regret most, no excuse for late appearance in the class-room in the morning.

But, Mr. Chairman, though in those respects we are so different, yet there is one platform upon which we are all united, one subject for mutual and cordial congratulation,—I mean the splendid success of our gathering this evening. This medical dinner is the first of the kind ever held in Montreal, and the brilliancy with which it has been carried out augurs well for its yearly repetition. It has always been customary in this and other colleges to hold an annual Freshman's Dinner, at which our verdant medical friends were introduced to student life among their predecessors, vowed everlasting friendship to one another, and went home, or at least got home in some manner needless to explain, fully imbued with the idea that they were a great credit to their college. This year we have ventured upon a new departure, we have abolished the ancient footing dinner, for "its usefulness was gone," and in its place we have established an annual reunion to which our friends and professors lend grace by their presence; while it is conducted in such a manner that even "*gentlemen of the Cloth*" do not find it inconsistent with their principles to be present. Let us then hope

that this may prove the first of many similar gatherings, and when we shall pass from our Alma Mater and enter upon our professional duties, amid its trials and vexations, will it not be encouraging to feel that we are not forgotten. For by the acceptance of our annual invitation we again revive the associations of student life, form the acquaintance of new medical friends, and enjoy a reunion with our professors whom we so greatly esteem, and from whose stores of knowledge and experience we have so largely drawn. In conclusion, allow me on behalf of the class to present to our guests and friends our warmest thanks for their presence and very kind remarks, which have contributed so much to the success of the evening, while our professors and graduates know full well the esteem in which they are held by us, and do not need at my hand any lengthened eulogy, but I think I will fairly express our sentiments by concluding in the words of the poet:

"When Time, who steals our years away,
Shall steal our pleasures too;
The memory of the past will stay,
And half our joys renew.

Other toasts followed, and a right merry time was had. A little before two in the morning, as clear-headed a lot of diners as ever rose from a public dinner departed from the Windsor, and the reason was that the dinner was conducted upon *absolute* temperance principles.

THE NEW MEDICAL TARIFF.

Whether it was a wise or an unwise act for the profession of this Province to secure for their incorporated representatives power from Parliament to frame a tariff, is a matter which admits of discussion; but we think there is little doubt in the mind of any that a serious mistake was made in making only one tariff for cities and the country. The blame for this rests upon the shoulders of country practitioners, who insisted that the services which they rendered were of equal value to that of their city brethren. This argument, admitted as being true in the abstract, was shorn of its entire force, when custom was considered, and the relative cost of living taken into consideration. The one tariff rate was, however, carried, and in at least one section of the country the out-cry against it has been so great that its modification or repeal was the election cry during the late Provincial election. In the County of Brome the Solicitor General, the