

CANADA

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Mr. Dean, Members of Faculties, Ladies and Gentlemen,—
Should I omit to tell you that the embarrassment under which I to-night labor in appearing before you as the inaugurator of the 51st lecture-course of your school is not very much alleviated by my sense of the honor conferred on me by the distinguished Faculty who have invited me to assume the pleasing function, I would be alike unjust to my own feelings and insensible of the paternal—may I not rather say *filial*?—affection so generously manifested towards me on the auspicious occasion of the entrance of this now vigorous and prosperous school on its second half century of honorable labour. I am not, indeed, oblivious of the fact that for this happy privilege I am indebted certainly neither to my professional reputation nor to my large scientific acquirements, but to the stern fact of far advanced age, coupled, however, with that which I regard as an honor of high distinction—the circumstance of my being, with one exception, or, as I would hope, two, the oldest surviving graduate, not only of this medical *school*, but of the University of McGill *College* itself, for, as you must all well know, the Medical Faculty was not its first-born offspring, but was virtually and undeniably its nursing mother. It should never be forgotten that McGill College, as a teaching, living institution, was for many years known only through the energising vitality infused into its