

over the great enemy of mankind which it is our especial duty to oppose.

It has been said that every man is the architect of his own fortune, and as an architect before building a house prepares a plan, so would I advise each one of you to lay out a working plan for your future guidance, a plan that will embody your highest ideals and aims and ambitions in life, and when you are sure that you are right, stick to it until, with a more mature experience, you become certain that you have discovered a better one.

We believe, judging from your close application during your undergraduate course, that each and every one of you is resolved to train yourself according to advanced scientific methods into a strong and able man, a power for good in the community in which you live and are known, a pride to the University which to-day has conferred its degree upon you, and an honour to the profession of which to-day you become a member.

It has been the aim of the McGill Medical Faculty to aid you in laying a broad and solid foundation. During the short period of four years scarcely more than this can be accomplished, but we have tried and we hope that we have succeeded in giving you such a training in the principles of scientific medicine and surgery that you can go on and build as solid and as heavy and as ornate a superstructure as your opportunities and talents may permit.

The first duty of a physician is to his patient. This duty should be the mainspring and inspiration of his life. And what nobler work can a man perform than to relieve pain and save life? What more enchanting occupation than dealing with those "crowded mysteries which lie between the first short gasp and the last and long-drawn sigh"? The opportunities for doing good possessed by the devoted family doctor are indeed enviable. Wealth, it is true, he seldom obtains, but other rewards more desirable even than wealth are often bestowed upon him in full measure. So order your daily life that you may be at all times worthy of the confidence which will be reposed in you. In no calling in life is there greater opportunity for the exercise—not the display—but for the exercise of the highest and keenest qualities of intellect, of self-reliance, and of endurance. You will be called upon to assume tremendous responsibilities; you will be placed amid surroundings that will test your fibre to the utmost. It will be no time to complete your education when standing at the bedside of a father or a mother or a loved one, fighting hard with the angel of death. You will do well, therefore, to spend your leisure time in further fitting yourselves for your life's work. Avoid excesses.