

Speech material
McGill University
May 29 1929

Suggestion from Mr. Rogers

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My first word must be one of grateful acknowledgment to the Governors, Principal and Fellows of McGill University for the honour I have just received at the hands of the Chancellor. ^{The freedom: the fellowship? the learning} However unworthy of this honour one may feel himself to be, it would be strange indeed if he were not deeply touched by this evidence of your friendly regard, and by the dignity and significance of this occasion. To pass from the ^{confined halls of the} forum or the market ^{and return to the} place to the quiet halls of learning is at all times a pleasant and refreshing experience. ^{but none more so than upon the} Especially is this ^{day of commencement with the} the case at Convocation when a new group of graduates goes ^{to the world} out into the world, and it becomes possible for those of us who are the elder members of your order to recall the memories of other days and revive the rich associations which gather about the event which is uppermost in your minds today.

It is the time-honoured custom of certain cities of England to confer their Freedom upon those who are deemed worthy of this recognition. I have sometimes thought it would be most fitting if a similar custom were followed by the Universities, and that instead of an Honorary Degree,

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