

but frequently nurse and friend—not an alarmist; his was, as often as might be, the “primrose path,” but never that of “dalliance;” in the treatment of his patients, he was as cheering and comforting by his conversation as he was fortunate in his practice. Nor were his exertions purely directed towards acquiring a competence; the poor and friendless shared equally with the wealthy his time, and participated in the benefits of his experience. Well do we remember his surgery at stated hours presenting the appearance of a dispensary—himself prescribing with the care and conscientiousness of paid skill. Dr. Robertson was one of that faithful band of pioneers, who, after great toil, and after surmounting constant difficulties, succeeded in establishing a General Hospital in 1820, and two years afterwards he was one of the originators of the first School of Medicine in Canada, which is now incorporated with M’Gill College. To these institutions he for many years devoted much of his time: he was Professor, at the period of his death, of the Theory and Practice of Medicine; to which chair he was appointed in 1833 on the death of Dr. Caldwell: previously to which he lectured on Midwifery and the Diseases of Women and Children; in both capacities he was respected and beloved by the students, to whom the stores of his mind were at all times freely and almost gratuitously bestowed.

As an operator, Dr. Robertson was far above mediocrity; we have repeatedly witnessed him enact his part with skill: there may have been some who surpassed him in the rapidity and dexterity of their movements but not one was there superior in soundness of judgment or in firmness of hand.

In politics, Dr. Robertson always was a Conservative—some deemed him a Tory; be this as it may, he was one of the most liberal and enlightened of this class, and in the change of opinions, and in the turmoil of the times, his character, endued with the warmest virtues—with the pure sentiments of honour and humanity—his temperament blessed with gentle manners, an unaffectedly cheerful, nay playful disposition—could not fail to screen him from the attacks of those to whom it might be presupposed, he was placed in antagonism.

Dr. Robertson was born on the 15th March, 1784, and had therefore completed his 60th year.

We have thus added our testimony to that of many others, in summing up briefly this obituary. The task has been rendered less painful, by the certainty that not one could have breathed a word tending to sully so bright a fame. Would that our monument were “*cere perennius*.”