

that, too, without resorting to any illegitimate or dishonorable means. Nay, more, from the outset our curriculum embraced a larger field and required a greater expenditure than that of our rivals. We have labored under the disadvantage of not having any of our faculty attending physicians of an hospital, and yet our work prospers. This felt advantage will, we sincerely hope, be shortly removed, and, by the commencement of another session, the students of this Faculty will have at their service the very best field in Canada for the practical study of surgery. During the past year your Faculty has acquired "The Woman's Hospital of Montreal," where the important obstetrical and gynecological branches of medicine are practically taught to the student. The importance of this acquisition can only be realized in time, when our graduates have shown, as we reasonably hope, their decided superiority in these respects over competitors from other schools. We are pleased also to record no break in the personnel of the Faculty, and are happy to acknowledge the indefatigable zeal of our honored Dean—we wish him long life and health to fill his post with us! We have added to this faculty lecturers on various branches in the proposed summer course already alluded to. One of these, the first appointed, has already shown his worth by most efficiently filling the chair of surgery during the previous session. His name and personal presence is not unknown to Lennoxville, a young surgeon of promise, the son of one of our earliest and warmest friends, whose loss we all sincerely deplore. I refer to Dr. G. F. Slack. Mr. Chancellor, ladies and gentlemen, it is time to return from these digressions and occupy the remaining moments with the subject proper before me. Gentlemen graduates, this day marks a memorable point in the history of your life. Your teachers are gratified to recognize you as thoroughly qualified to enter upon your professional career. As well trained we expect you to strive for the mastery and win the prize of life. If all cannot be successful, at least successful in the same degree, let each one prove himself worthy of success, and be content to fail with a good conscience, rather than resort to doubtful means to gain your purpose. Gentlemen, you are beginning the real struggle of life, and, believe me, that your former teachers will ever watch your progress with intense

interest. Your success will be our honor, and your failure our sincere grief. So far as it is in our power we wish to strengthen your hands, and will ever be at your service with such counsel and assistance as we are able to give. We believe you know enough to enable you to realize that you know nothing as you ought to know it. The knowledge you possess but qualifies you to wisely investigate the subtle workings of the human frame. That you will be diligent in your profession we doubt not, but, gentlemen, I trust you will be much more than workers and gatherers of facts. I earnestly trust you will rouse your best energies and be men, self-reliant, wise to discern, strong to execute. The accumulation of observations are valuable *only* so far as they enable you to successfully interrogate nature. The knowledge you possess must be made your own, a part of your very being. If it is to profit you. While holding such master minds, as have written so ably on medical matters, in just and unfeigned respect, let not the words or thoughts of any stamp out your right to investigate and act for yourself. Dare to be yourself—dare to be a man among men—take stock of yourself, and ascertain what you do and what you do not possess—be not uncertain about your work; vacillation is almost as bad as ignorance. Not only know yourself, but believe in yourself, if you would have others believe in you. Where you find a lack, bend your energies to supply the want. When obscure phenomena present themselves, seek out a solution to the problem, and then gather facts (accurately observed) to test your hypothesis. It is by the pursuit of this course that the greatest advancements have been achieved in the science of medicine. To gather facts with an object, it is this that gives zeal and pleasure to your work. It is the possession and exercise of this faculty that distinguishes the man of genius from the indefatigable but aimless worker. During the earlier years of your practice occupy your time diligently in gaining further insight into your profession and keep (then and ever afterward) well abreast with the current literature of the day—neglect of this will cause you to lag behind and leave you distanced by your competitors. Many things are done now with success that a short time ago were not even contemplated. The knowledge of to-day will not serve for to-morrow. You must move onward