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DELIVERED TO THE GRADUATES IN MEDICINE OF MCGILL UNIVERSITY, MARCH 31ST, 1888.

BY GEORGE WILKINS, M.D., M.R.C.S., ENG.,

Professor of Medical Jurisprudence and Lecturer on Histology, McGill University.

Gentlemen Graduates in Medicine :

The duty of addressing a few parting words to you on behalf of the Medical Faculty has this year devolved upon me. Allow me, therefore, in the first place, to extend to you our hearty congratulations at receiving the degree of Doctor of Medicine which the University has just conferred on you through our esteemed and honored Principal.

In presenting you this diploma we confer privileges which, as far as the law is concerned, places you on an equal footing with the oldest and most experienced physicians. This diploma is a guarantee from the University that you have acquired the requisite training and education in the art and science of medicine to qualify you to practice that profession and to be entrusted with the lives of your fellow-men. This does not mean simply that your privileges and duties are to be confined to the curing of disease and the relief of suffering. They will embrace as well the endeavor to ascertain the causes of disease and the application of the laws of sanitary science.

The honorable position that you have now acquired, of which, I am sure, you are justly proud, is the result of four years steady hard work on your part. Nor is the pride associated with this