

grounds, and the only familiar intimate friend to be seen is the venerable rectangular chair, which, at different times, afforded some sort of rest to every professor and teacher in the medical school from the time of Holmes to the present day. It reminds me of the old coronation chair in Westminster which covers the same stone on which Jacob is supposed to have rested his weary head, and on which it was necessary the ancient kings of Scotland and, since the Union, the monarchs of Great Britain should be crowned. So, it seems to me, must the teachers in medicine of McGill occupy this respected chair before they can properly assume their true professional dignity and responsibility.

We are thankful to have still with us in the enjoyment of health, well merited honours and, I hope, ease, Fenwick, Craik, MacCallum and Wright, and I trust they may long continue to be the living links between the present and the past. While the honoured names of Hall, Sutherland, Campbell and Howard are indelibly written on your standard among the heroes of by-gone days.

Though methods have changed and greatly improved, we must remember, times have changed. The science of medicine has pushed on with giant strides. Didactic teaching has given way largely to practical instruction, demonstration and experiment. I will illustrate this by alluding to two of your primary subjects, and they are in keeping with all the others. How is Physiology taught now? By an earnest scientific student, already an author of good repute. His knowledge and his teachings are not limited to the *human* body, but cover the broad fields of comparative physiology, in which there are still so many undiscovered mines of treasure to be entered only by the faithful workman. How practically he teaches you all that is known up to the present day of the laws that govern man in a state of health; and need I remind you of the great importance of understanding him in health in order that you may appreciate the altered conditions constituting disease. You may feel that this subject is so extensive already that nothing remains, but if you enquire into the true meaning of such terms as *nerve force*, *secretion*, *absorption*, *elimination*, and a host of others, you will find there is plenty of room for enquiry and investigation.