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OPENING LECTURE OF THE FOURTH  
SESSION OF THE RESTORED MEDI-  
CAL FACULTY OF THE UNI-  
VERSITY OF TORONTO.

BY J. E. GRAHAM, M.D.

*Mr. Vice-Chancellor, Ladies and Gentlemen:*

I regard it as a great honor and privilege to give the opening lecture of this, the fourth session of the restored Medical Faculty of Toronto University.

There are some who look upon inaugural addresses as antiquated and useless. It is certainly difficult to find new and interesting matter for each year. This is more especially the case in the old-established medical colleges of Europe; but in this comparatively new country, where there are necessarily many changes and much improvement of the new upon the old methods, one can more easily select a theme which may be of interest to the students, to the profession, and to the public at large.

We all deeply regret that, owing to the fire of this year, this celebration cannot be held in the Convocation Hall, as formerly. On the other hand, we all rejoice that what seemed at one time an overwhelming disaster, is likely to become a real benefit, and that the University will rise from its misfortune to greater glory and usefulness.

There are many things in nature which are so easy to obtain, and of which there is such a profusion, that we are not conscious of the great benefits they are conferring upon us, until they are partially taken away or there is a threatened danger of their entire removal.

In the same way the people of this Province have had such easy and free access to this University that they became, to a certain extent, unconscious of the great benefit they derived from it; until there appeared some danger of its destruction. The expressions of love and admiration heard on all sides, as well as the handsome donations already made, are strong evidences that the public have at last begun to realize the great value of this institution and the importance of placing it on a thoroughly satisfactory basis. Let us hope that the good work will not cease until this University is made to take its proper position among the very first of this continent—in fact, of the world. The people of this Province are sufficiently wealthy and intelligent to demand nothing less, and it is to be hoped that the necessary funds for every improvement will be provided for, either by public or private endowment.

Three years ago, Prof. Wright, in the inaugural address of the first session of the restored medical faculty, alluded to the history of European universities, and of the great advantages they had derived from their medical faculty. He also demonstrated, by means of a chart, the disproportion between the increase of the Arts and Medical students during past years in