

Lecturer ARCHAUD, B. A., B. C. L., addressed the successful law students on the duties shortly devolving upon them, taking occasion to pay a high tribute to the memory of their late fellow-student, Mr. S. Hutchison.

After the conferring of the degree of D. C. L.,

The Hon. M. Justier TONNAGE rose and addressed the students of both faculties as follows :

GENETIQUE GRADUATES.—You have till to-day been candidates for degrees in Law and Medicine. Henceforward you will be candidates for the reward of your professions and for the support and favour of the community in which your lot is cast. Think of the origin and meaning of this word candidate. It is the Latin word *candidatus*, and was applied to the aspirants for political honours in ancient Rome, because they made their canvass clothed in robes of white *lana candida* as emblematic of their personal purity. Let us hope, in the best and highest sense, that the honour and purity of your professional careers may be among your best and highest aspirations. Let me here say that hitherto you have been recipients of knowledge, and now you go forth to be the educators and instructors—the advisers—of others. Let me express the earnest hope that you will continue your education in the future with large and liberal views of what that education should be. A clergyman who knows nothing but divinity should not be called an educated man ; and a lawyer whose knowledge is confined to his codes, and a physician whose knowledge is limited to his medical books and his cases, should not be called an educated man. Dr. Whewell explained education to be the process by which an individual is made a participant in the rational, the true, the beautiful and the good. Some one has justly remarked that if we rest contented with what we have acquired during our boyhood and youth, and merely trust to the old stories of thought and information for the benefit of others, we will be like one who draws water from a stagnant pool instead of seeking it from the ever flowing springs of a clear and sparkling well. Do not neglect your education as men any more than you should neglect your professional education in the future. A few words here to the graduates in law. Your profession concerns the administration of justice, which has well been termed the grandest position which has been assigned to man by the great Author of his being—the function which, of all others, most surely satisfies his noblest instinct. “There is not, in my opinion,” says Sir James Macintosh, in language which has been often quoted, “in the whole compass of human affairs, so noble a spectacle as that which is displayed in the progress of jurisprudence ; when we may contemplate the cautions and unwearied exertions of wise men through a long course of ages, withdrawing every case as it arises from the dangerous flexible rules ; extending the dominion of justice and reason, and gradually contracting within the narrowest of possible limits the domain of brutal force and arbitrary evil.” There is a particular feature about the training of the advocate—that it is necessarily severe—in a manner not to be found in the other professions, and I make the observation without in the least assuming or asserting that the weight of care and responsibility is greater in the profession of law than the other learned professions, but in one respect the profession of the advocate is peculiar. The physician plies his noble and beneficent vocation in the privacy and silence of the sick chamber. His skill and sagacity on the one hand, or his unskillfulness on the other, have not that publicity which attends the advocate.

Again, the teacher of divine truth from the pulpit expounds his doctrine—powerfully or feebly—soundly or erroneously—to a silent and respectful audience, without audible questioning or contradiction. Far otherwise is it with the advocate. Every statement and proposition with he makes, or advances, is scrutinized, and, if possible, called in question by a vigilant and interested adversary. The controversy is decided by an experienced Judge, indifferent to either side, without any motive but the promotion of truth and justice. And even the decision of the Judge is not final ; the party aggrieved has his recourse to a higher tribunal if the decision is erroneous. And it is also to be borne in mind that the decision of the Judge is rendered with reasons in the presence of, and under scrutiny of, an experienced and vigilant Bar, who surround the parties and the Court, and are observant spectators of the proceedings. This publicity in the practice of the law—this open public controversy—assuredly necessitates a hardy training on the part of the members of the profession. To the graduates in medicine I would say this—that if your noble and beneficent vocation is plied in the privacy of the sick chamber, often away from the scrutiny of human eye, and with only the Unseen Eye watching your actions, your profession for this reason more especially appeals to your conscientiousness, for your patient is, humanly speaking, entirely at your mercy, and is unreservedly and entirely in your hands. Do you not labour all the more tenderly, the more pitifully, because suffering humanity lies so helplessly before you ? Let me say this also—that it appears to me that your profession is peculiarly honoured by the fact that the Divine Being, who became incarnate and dwelt among men, plied your vocation

when he healed the sick and cured divers diseases. And among the triumphs of Christian missions in this century I do not know anything more interesting and significant than the fact that the mighty influence for good of your profession is enlisted in Christian missions by the formation of so-called medical missions—by the union of your profession with the vocation of the Christian missionary, so that the healing of the body may lead to the healing of the soul.

I will close with two thoughts as to the duties of you who have to-day become graduates. It is a counsel continually given to you, but which deserves well to be dwelt upon, because of its importance—that you should be ever learners. Your profession is one of research and study, as well as one of action. You must, by mental activity, keep abreast the march of human progress, or you will be inevitably left behind in the race. Take an illustration. I was a student in Paris 1850, at attended a course of lectures on chemistry given there at the School of Medicine by Mr. Orfila, the celebrated Toxicologist. The science of chemistry has made great progress since then, and if I had then received from Orfila all the knowledge of science then possessed by that great chemist, and if I now attempted to teach a class of chemistry on the knowledge of 1850 communicated by Orfila, I need not say how valueless that teaching would be to the students of 1876. It is plain then that the acquisitions of middle age should be a great advance upon those of youth. Do not repine if the first years do not fulfil your expectations the future will afford you golden opportunities for systematizing your knowledge, and utilizing your experience, and in this way you will pursue studies without which no valuable results will ever be retained. In such wise do justice to your profession, and (a celebrated London physician said) rely upon it your profession will one day do justice to you. Another counsel I would give you is to beware how you regard any portion of your professional duties as “drudgery.” There is no more dangerous rock on which to make a shipwreck of your prospects. Regard everything—the minutest details—in your profession as interesting—every instrument the lawyer draws or copies, and copying is most important. Lord Chancellor Eldon, who was the most eminent Equity judge in England of his time, said that in his younger days he copied everything in the shape of a deed that he could lay his hands on. Every time you attend public offices, the chamber of counsel, or the judges’ or are in Court, or the Hospital, at all these times let your observation be incessant. The late Sir Astley Cooper, one of the most eminent of English surgeons, when giving some interesting particulars about his early career, said that he counted nothing drudgery when he entered his profession, to which he gave himself up altogether, doing everything that he could find to do, never caring how disagreeable or repulsive it was,—nor whether he did it over and over again ; for he reflected that *practice* would make perfect ; and by doing so, he had seen out and done better than a good many fine gentlemanly fellow-students.

THE ACTING CHANCELLOR said as Dr. Hingston had not been present for a number of years at the annual convocation, and as he was then in the room he would call upon him to state whether the University had made any progress since he left the institution.

HIS WORTHY MAYOR HINGSTON drew an amusing contrast between the past and present. He was certainly impressed when looking over that vast assemblage with this contrast. When he graduated, there were precisely five ladies present, and it was at that time an understood thing that no lady under a certain age or over good looking should approach the college grounds. He was pleased to say that it was now fashionable not only for the aged but also for the youth and beauty of the city to attend on such occasions.

The Rev. Dr. Wilkes closed the proceedings with prayer.

POETRY.

The Pilgrims of the Plains.

BY JOAQUIN MILLER.

They climbed the rock-built breasts of earth,
The Titan-fronted, blowy steep
That cradled Time where Freedom keeps
Her flag of white-blown stars unfurled.
They turned about, they saw the birth
Of sudden dawn upon the world.
Again they gazed ; they saw the face
Of God, and named it boundless space.