

and of the means of preventing them, rudimentary as they are, are yet far in advance of our actual practice. For this we are not responsible; it is due to ignorance and consequent apathy or prejudice on the part of the great body of the people, who, it seems, to me will never comprehend that thousands and thousands of lives are annually lost, sacrificed to ignorance, often to prejudice. To see this illustrated in all its horror we have not to go far from home, for during the past year in our own good city of Montreal, close upon 1000 lives were sacrificed to that terrible scourge, Small Pox, nearly every one of which might have been saved had vaccination and re-vaccination been performed.

We meet to day, gentlemen, in this beautiful building, and in this spacious lecture room for the first time. The Faculty of Medicine feeling the inconveniences to which the students were placed last session, not having proper accommodation, determined to provide a building specially devoted to the purpose of Medical instruction. It was a bold undertaking, for a school only one year old, to put up such a building as we occupy to-day, but the promises of support were so general, that we felt justified in assuming the responsibility which its erection entails. It is not more than seventeen weeks since the first stone of the building was laid and its erection has taken place with woderful rapidity. Although not yet out of the hands of the contractors, it is so far advanced, that the college work can go on without interruption. When completed it will be excelled by only one Medical School in the Dominion of Canada. Gentleman, I must close. Use the opportunities which will soon be presented to you, so that, when your

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