

had done yeoman's service for the University, and it was the least tribute and mark of gratitude we could offer him in asking that it should bear his name. Gentlemen, before I sit down I wish you all to join me in offering to that gentlemen our best wishes during his leave of absence. After a service of more than a quarter of a century in the interests of the University, in the interests of the community at a continual self-sacrifice, a year's leave of absence is a well earned rest, in which the least we can do is to offer him every happiness, every joy and a safe return. [Loud and continued applause].

The toast was honoured in a most enthusiastic manner, those present singing "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow."

Dr. Frechette, the Poet Laureate, was then called upon and recited, in a most eloquent manner, one of his poems.

DR. DAWSON'S REPLY.

Principal Dawson, on rising to respond to the toast, was greeted with loud and long continued applause, which lasted for some minutes. When the enthusiasm occasioned by his appearance had subsided, Principal Dawson returned thanks to those present for their kindness, and paid a high compliment to the poet laureate, Dr. Frechette. He referred in humorous terms to the fact that he had always been called upon to respond to this toast, and expressed the hope from what had been said that on his return next year he might respond to the toast of "The Lady Graduates." (Laughter and applause.) During the evening he said a gentleman had propounded to him the question whether it was the hotels or the university that had made the greatest progress during the last twenty-five years. (Laughter and applause.) He thought that they might say at any rate that the University movement had made just as great progress as the hotel movement which culminated in the Windsor. [Applause.] But there was a difference, he would like them to remember, between the two institutions,—the one was for the generation in which it existed, but the University had to keep pace with the present, and point forward to something nobler and greater. [Loud applause.] The University should be the vanguard of advancement and ever look forward to the future. [Applause.] He next referred in happy terms to the medals which had been presented by Dr. Wickstead, of Ottawa,

for physical training. [Applause.] He believed that these medals were indicative of one great principle in their University work—that was that it had always been their aim to give a general and comprehensive culture and not seek to make the pupils either doctors, lawyers or ministers alone. (Applause.) He believed this was the true function of the University. He referred to the great importance of physical training. The University, he said, was not for the purpose of cramming men and filling their heads with a mass of facts, but their aim had been to give that broad liberal culture which would make the students mental facilities as supple and active as the trained athlete's muscles. The aim of the University had been to train to the fullest extent the mental facilities of the students. That which they might term the scientific training of the mind, was now receiving greater attention, and he believed that the true aim of the University should be to develop the power of mind that is in the student, and, therefore, enable him to be the more powerful, influential and useful member of society. He did not speak of their moral education, but in his opinion it was impossible to give a sound scientific culture to men without giving them a bias towards that which is good and true. [Applause.] The work of the University was a practical one and was becoming more and more practical as time went on and the country progressed. The workmanship of the University was to be seen in its graduates. [Applause.] The work was a more difficult one than might at first be imagined. He hoped that the graduates would do all in their power to advance the interests of McGill. (Applause.) As their graduates became older, and more influential men, the University would look to them to do for her what other men, many of whom have not received a University education, had done for her in the past. (Loud Applause.) The time would come when these men would pass away, and the positions of trust and honour in the community would be accepted by the graduates of McGill, who would then have to support their Alma Mater. He hoped that the day was not far distant when they would see even grander and better things, and when it could be said that thanks to those who have received a higher education in the University there would be very few illiterate people in the Dominion.

Principal Dawson resumed his seat amid loud and enthusiastic applause.