

of your importance—that but for the students our occupation as a university would be almost gone. If you do feel too much elated, let me remind you that at periods in the past, varying from one year to forty-five years, we were just as important as you—in that respect at least.

\* But lest you should still feel too much puffed up, I brought with me a little clipping from a newspaper. It is an anonymous letter, but I hope you will let me read it :

**G**OOD FURNISHED ROOMS FOR GENTLEMEN—every convenience; no students need apply. — Church St.

I have suppressed the numerals lest you should be rushing to “apply,” and I do not want to lose your company so soon; or you might be showing your want of discrimination by a serenade; and, gentlemen, perhaps that has been the trouble. Some wicked fellow or fellows, falsely representing themselves, or supposed to be, students, may have been blowing fog-horns under the windows at night, disturbing some poor sick fellow who had just gone to sleep, when they should themselves have been in bed, or burning what was pretended to be the ante-midnight oil. But I do not know who inserted that advertisement. I do not think any of our faculty did; we are only too glad to have you “apply,” to us first, and then to your work. We are glad to see so many of you back again; glad too to see plenty of freshmen. Did I hear a second-years’ man on the back benches interpolate the remark, “What is home without a baby?” If so, gentlemen of the first-year, it is because he considers what delight he himself gave last year to the present third-years’ men; these in turn to the present “candidates for M.B.,” and so on up to the time of the patriarchs behind me.

But seriously, gentlemen, we are glad to see you; and will you take kindly one or two little bits of advice that may be useful to you at the outset of your course, or in beginning a new year in it? Choose men of good, steady habits for your roommates and companions. If each one does this, where will the other fellows be? The logical deduction will be that they will have ceased to exist. There is one piece of advice which I may only venture to give personally, although I think I might count on the faculty also. Many of you are adrift, away from your homes. I know of two pretty good anchorages

here in your university life. One is the Medical Students’ Temperance League. If you at once place yourselves in a position to say, when asked, “I am bound in honor not to take even a friendly (?) glass of liquor,” you will save yourselves a lot of bother and unrest. Your friends will soon know your resolve, and those of them who are worth anything will think none the less of you, whatever their own practice may be. Another good institution for you to join is the Medical Y.M.C.A. You will get no harm there. If you do not want to indulge in cant you need not do so; but if you are or should become a true Christian, you will be none the worse man—none the worse student. But an infinitely nobler and better thing than being merely a member of either of these societies—a thing far from incompatible with them, but not necessarily embraced in them—is to make it your chief object to please Him from whom you receive every blessing which you enjoy. Taking that principle for your guiding star, you will steer a straight, safe, and useful course.

I again say on behalf of this faculty that we hope for your regular and steady application to your work. We wish you all success, and will do what we can to help you to it.

In that part of his address which dealt with the subject of hygiene, Dr. Oldright also made a few extempore remarks on cholera as one of the questions of the day. Of the saving of money, as well as life, by advances in the medical sciences, we have an example in the present mode of destroying the germ wherever it can exist—in clothing, baggage, etc.—in contrast with the old so-called “shotgun” quarantine. A description was given of the “observation ship” at some of the stations. About 60 healthy persons at a time are taken off the infected ship; whilst they are passing through their bathrooms and on to the several staterooms assigned to them during their period of “observation,” their clothing is being sterilized and is ready for them—drying immediately as soon as withdrawn from the superheated steam chamber. This was described in detail, and a reference made to that invented by Mr. Bernard McEvoy, of Toronto, which appears to be the best in use. One weak point appears to be that money handled and interchanged by persons affected with the