

"Of course, I hope she's happy;
I'll get along, Great Scott!
Hold on, you needn't hurry—
Latin, is it, that you've got?
Well, if you *must* be going,
My regards to Mr. Mott."

Now, the moral of my story,
O ye rulers of McGill:—
And I hope that none among you
Will receive my moral ill:—
Is, Beware Co-education,
And Remember Peanut Bill.

CAP'N. GORN.

THE CHAIR OF PATHOLOGY.

Professor Adami's Lecture.

On Tuesday afternoon last at 3 o'clock p.m., the inaugural lecture upon the establishment of a Chair of Pathology in the Medical Faculty of McGill University was delivered in the Molson Hall by Professor J. George Adami, the subject being "Modern Pathology." Mr. J. H. R. Molson presided, and accompanying him on the platform where the following governors, fellows, officers of instruction, etc.: Mr. S. Finley, Professors Johnson, Bovey, Wesley Mills, Dr. Craik, Rev. Dr. Barbour, Dr. McCallum, Dr. Girdwood, Prof. Moyse, Dr. Buller, Dr. Stewart, Dr. Cameron, Rev. Prof. Cousirat, Prof. Cox, Prof. Carus-Wilson, Prof. Nicholson, Dr. Ruttan, Dr. Bell, Dr. Finley, Dr. H. A. Lafleur, Mr. N. N. Evans, and the acting secretary, Mr. J. W. Brakenridge.

The Chairman formally opened the proceedings, and at his request Dr. Craik, dean of the Faculty of Medicine, made a few remarks. He explained how it came about that the lecture was being delivered now instead of at the beginning of the session, referred to the fact that it was through the liberality of the late Mrs. Dow and a private citizen that the Chair of Pathology had been founded, and congratulated the University on the appointment of Prof. Adami to fill that chair.

Prof. Adami commenced his lecture by remarking that medicine at this moment was passing through its great age of *renaissance*. Never before in its whole history had such advances been made as had been recorded month after month in those last years of the nineteenth century, and they had been gained not by chance speculation, but by purely scientific methods; they were the result of experimental pathology or the scientific study of disease. If medicine was to be treated as a science, it must, like all other natural sciences, be based upon experimental investigation. He then proceeded to refer to some of the benefits which had accrued through a study of pathology, explaining that Pasteur's discovery and application of protective inoculation against anthrax was what led up to the deeper study of infectious diseases. We had gained during the last twenty years, and especially during the last twelve, a knowledge of the bacteria associated with a host of diseases affecting man and the lower animals. We had gained a knowledge of the microbes causing suppuration and erysipelas, pneumonia, typhoid, diphtheria, influenza, tuberculosis, leprosy, glanders, relap-

sing fever, tetanus, and malignant cedema, as well as a knowledge of the microbes, not bacteria, associated with malaria, ringworm, etc. In short, there were no fewer than 158 definitely recognized pathogenic organisms, and the number was being increased monthly. The lecturer alluded to the great good which had resulted from protective inoculation in the case of fowl cholera, blackleg in cattle, and hog cholera. By this means thousands of sheep, swine and cattle were being annually saved. Speaking of what had been done for man in the way of preventing or ameliorating disease in man, he referred to the fact that if the blood serum of an animal rendered immune against disease were injected into a susceptible animal, that animal was rendered refractory to the disease. This had been used to cure tetanus, or lockjaw, in man, and during the last few months several cases had been recorded, in which the disease had been cured and life saved by this means. Rabies, or hydrophobia was next touched upon, the lecturer stating that during the last thirty years the mortality among those bitten by rabid animals was over 12 per cent. Now, by Pasteur's treatment, the death rate had been reduced to less than one per cent. But perhaps a more convincing proof of the value of Pasteur's treatment was afforded in cases where persons had been bitten upon the face or head where the bite was most dangerous. Formerly the mortality was 80 per cent.; but in the cases of 593 persons treated by Pasteur's method, in whom it was definitely determined that the animal causing the bite was rabid, only fourteen died, thus reducing the mortality to 2.36 per cent. During five years, 7,893 persons had been treated with a mortality of 0.67 per cent. Taking only those cases in which there was absolute positive proof that the animal causing the bite was rabid, there were 1,336 such persons treated during five years, and the mortality was reduced from about 12 per cent. to 0.97 per cent. A stronger argument, he thought, could not be given in favor of the benefit which had been conferred by Pasteur and his associates in their treatment of hydrophobia. Had experimental investigation led to these results and no other, he thought all would agree that modern pathology had done enough to earn the gratitude of mankind. He then proceeded to speak of what pathological research had achieved in connection with tuberculosis and the suppuration of wounds. Erysipelas, he said, now never suppured in any well regulated hospital, hospital gangrene was unknown, and puerperal fever condemned utterly the midwife and doctor in whose practice it occurred, whilst it was unknown in the hospital. There were other forms of disease not so closely due to bacteriological origin, and upon these pathology was throwing light. He spoke strongly in favor of vivisection; and in conclusion said that in Canada, where such an enormous value was attached to the animal possessions of the country, surely it was well that we should look forward to a harmonious working of medical men and of the students of comparative pathology, and that there should be in Montreal the means of pursuing in common these two great aims—the good of the animal and the good of man.

A vote of thanks to Prof. Adami, on the motion of Prof. Johnson, terminated the proceedings.