

Original Communications.

Valedictory Address to the Graduates in Medicine, delivered at the 6th Convocation of the Medical Faculty, University of Bishop College, by E. H. TRENHOLME, M.D., B.C.L., Prof. of Obstetrics and the Diseases of Women and Children.

MR. VICE-CHANCELLOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, AND GRADUATES OF THIS UNIVERSITY,—To me it is no small pleasure to have the honor of addressing a few farewell words to you, gentlemen, Graduates of the year 1877. Mr. Chancellor, upon any occasion this would be a pleasant and happy duty, but much more is it so upon the present occasion, when it has been our pride to present, and your good will to bestow, the honorable and highly esteemed degrees of C.M., M.D., of this University, upon as able a lot of young men as any Faculty could wish to graduate from their school. I speak no words but those of truth and soberness when I say this Faculty and this University expects her children to take the very foremost rank in the honorable roll of the eminent. Already your young Faculty has its students in the teaching body of your Medical School. We are gratified, therefore, and trust that you also will note with pleasure such marks of progress as to-day are presented to you. Your young school has taken a stand of perfect equality with the other medical schools of Canada. Our most active opponents in past times claim no superiority over us now. The Royal College of Physicians and the Royal College of Surgeons, England, have accorded this Faculty the same favor and privileges as those granted to any other school outside of Great Britain. That the honor in which we are held abroad is well merited, the continued success of this school attests. Already fifty-three doctors have graduated from these halls. The number of enregistered students have steadily increased. This year forty-six have entered their names upon the Registrar's book, and the prospect of large attendance next year is very flattering indeed. Your Faculty has announced the establishment of a summer course of three months, to begin 1st of May and end 31st July next. The work thus proposed to be done is intended to be thoroughly practical, and, so far as possible, clini-

cal. Earnest, hard-working students will find this course of great value, and an additional inducement to stop in town and walk the hospitals. Our object, in a word, is to thoroughly equip our graduates to efficiently perform their life work. I said the summer course was specially intended for the aid of earnest workers; well, it is so, and so is our regular sessions work also—Bishop's College wants none other. Those who wish to obtain an entrance into the profession of medicine without true and honest work must apply elsewhere; we will cheer and encourage all, but we will favor none. The results of the practical appreciation of these views we trust to present to your honorable convocation, from year to year, in increasing numbers. When we glance over the past six years, since this medical faculty was first ushered into life, when we recall the pressing trials and the not inglorious victories that have crowned our short existence, we think an abundant, yea, more than an abundant, answer is given to all who have challenged our right to live. Gentlemen, we intend to live, and, God willing, to live as a medical school to some purpose. 'Tis true we are young and poor, but we are not without hope that this University will shortly provide us with a college building, where, unencumbered by rent, we will be placed in a better position to pursue our work with success. The survival of the fittest is the modern gospel of certain scientists. Without pushing this theory too far, we may, from a retrospect of the past, not unreasonably look forward to a brilliant future. When, some seven years ago, Mr. Secretary, I had the honor of first communicating with you about the establishment of a medical school in connection with this honorable University, sanguine as were our hopes, they have been far more than realized. The beginning was small, but faith and hope were there, backed up by an earnestness of application that would brook no contradiction. We were earnestly resolved to live, but, at the same time, to live honorably and well. Young and little known, we gratefully appreciated, and do still appreciate, your many acts of kindness and encouragement, which have cheered us while passing through conflicts, out of which, we are proud to say, we have emerged triumphantly. We have successfully competed with rivals of long standing and high reputation, and