

He was a man of unflinching trustworthiness, faithful and devoted to duty, and had won the respect and esteem of those with whom he was associated.

By a sad and strange coincidence, within forty-eight hours followed the death of one who was associated with the earlier history of the university. I refer to Mr. W. G. Storm, the architect under whom the building which has recently been restored was originally designed and erected.

Passing from these, who were gathered in as the ripened grain, to the name of the last to whose loss I shall refer, I am reminded of an incident of that matriculation examination when I first met Professor Wilson. In the hall which stood within a few feet of the spot where we now are there was handed to us—I think it was by the then president, the late Dr. McCaul—a paper containing those beautiful lines of Mrs. Hemans:

“Leaves have their time to fall,

And flowers to wither at the north wind's breath,  
And stars to set—but all,

Thou hast *all* seasons for thine own, O Death!”

Fresh from the halls of this university, and full of promise for a successful and useful career, Dr. A. A. B. Williams was cut off in the flower of his youth. He died at Belgrave, where he had recently commenced practice. His father, Dr. R. Watson Williams, was a fellow-student with us of a previous generation, so that in joining with our younger brethren we extend to him a double measure of sympathy in the sore affliction through which he has been called to pass.

I have felt that I could not proceed to address you regarding the affairs of another session without expressing my sorrow and your sorrow at the losses we have sustained. Without unduly anticipating the more formal records, I know that I may count upon your sharing in this expression of it, and upon your forbearance with me in regard to any personal reminiscences in connection with the memory of those with whom I have been associated in various ways for so many years.

The loss of our late venerable president has necessitated another change—the appointment of his successor, and I beg to tender to the president my good wishes and congratulations

and those of my colleagues of the university faculty. It must be to all of us a matter of congratulation that the Government has chosen our new president from the university staff; not only so, but that it is a graduate of this university who has by his attainments, long experience, and successful record on that staff been found fitted to worthily occupy the position.

There are occasions when one may properly welcome people to their own house, and such now becomes my pleasing duty. The audience which I have the honor to address represents the public—the people of Ontario; and to the people of Ontario belongs the University of Toronto, of which this is the medical faculty. On behalf of the faculty, then, I may say that we are very glad to see here to-night so large and representative a gathering. I suppose that possibly some persons in this audience are aware that a university election is on the *tapis*, and that there has been some discussion regarding matters in which the medical faculty is concerned. Fortunately, what I have to say to you in this connection does not come in conflict with the announced opinions of the debaters of either side. Those who have studied the history of the university will have noted the various changes in its policy in regard to the existence and support of a medical faculty. To render my remarks intelligible to those who have not, permit me to make a brief retrospect. During the first ten years of its existence (first as King's College, and subsequently as the University of Toronto), it followed the example of the great European universities, and had a teaching medical department; but motives of personal pique and ambition caused the abolition of the faculty of medicine as a teaching institution. This subject has been so often dwelt upon by our late president and other prominent friends and authorities of the university that I will not now enter into particulars. For thirty-four years the University of Toronto went on content to act, so far as the profession of medicine was concerned, as a mere prescribing and examining board, a sort of foot-rule or weigh-scale to measure the attainments of the great bulk of the students of the Toronto School of Medicine and of a few from other teaching colleges, and receiving from these students just