

the best of those powers with which they have been endowed. They have a duty to this institution in which they are receiving their education, to maintain its high character and reputation, to see that it suffers no diminution of usefulness or influence through any laxity on their part. They have, moreover, a duty to their country and to mankind, who have perpetual need of the best services of their best men.

But there are others besides those who stand in the first rank, who may here claim a word of counsel and encouragement. It must often have occurred to us, as we have seen gold and silver medals and other marks of distinction conferred upon the men of the first rank, that something like despondency must come over those who belong to what we may call the rank and file of the army. But there is, in fact, no justification for such despondency. It is not in medicine alone, but in all the professions, in the Christian ministry, in law, and in business as well, that the men of distinction are the minority. But besides, whilst we must freely admit that there are certain walks in every profession which can be trodden only by the few, the great body of the work is done, and well and successfully done by the men who do not belong to those few. These men may not make startling discoveries in the science of medicine or invent new methods of treatment. But there is no necessity for their doing any thing of this kind. They can do and they are doing the kind of work which the world needs, and they are doing that work well and faithfully and successfully. And just as there are many able, careful, conscientious, skilful and successful practitioners who have not been gold or silver medalists, so there are now many here who may reach the same results by following the same methods.

To you, gentlemen, of whom I am now thinking, I will say with all earnestness—never despair of yourselves, respect yourselves, stir up the gift that is in you, do your work honestly, conscientiously, devotedly, and you will not fail of your reward.

Think of the generations of students who have passed through these lecture halls. There is not one of them who grudges or regrets the toil he bestowed upon that noble science to which you are giving yourselves. There is not one who does not lament whatever hours he may have wasted, or any duty which he may have neglected. Let it be your endeavour so to live and work in this College that you may have few regrets in the future.

Think, too, of the distinguished men who have given to this College the proud position which it now occupies. They cannot be here forever; yet their hearts will never forget the men or the work of this institution. See that your work here is such as to give them the hope, the confident expectation that when they leave their places vacant, men of their own training will be found to carry on the traditions of the past, and to add fresh lustre to the name of the Trinity Medical College in the future.

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Mutual education, in a large sense of the word, is one of the great and incessant occupations of human society, carried on partly with set purpose, and partly not. One generation forms another; and the existing generation is ever acting and reacting upon itself in the persons of its individual members.—*John Henry Newman.*

The man that bids for a smaller salary than his predecessor, and the pettefogging office-holder or preferment seeker, is to have no place in New Brunswick after this.