

ment, and presumed capable of judging of his qualifications. Queen's College, by the Royal Charter, has the power of conferring Degrees in the different Faculties. This, however, is the first time that any Degree has been conferred in the Faculty of Medicine. And it affords the Senatus much pleasure that the Degrees conferred to-day are bestowed on students connected with the College.

For some years past, it has been thought desirable, on many accounts, that Medicine should be taught as a branch of education in this University. Somewhat more than a year ago, not a few men, distinguished for their wisdom and learning, and ardent friends of the country, came to the conclusion, that the time had arrived when this should be attempted. You are aware that this scheme has been, so far, carried into effect. It requires time, and many appliances fairly at work, ere one can speak with certainty of the success of such an undertaking. Yet, when I think of the geographical situation of Kingston, of the advantages the medical student may derive from the classes in the College, and, above all, of the high talents and great diligence of the gentlemen of the Medical Faculty, I cannot but cherish strong hopes of the ultimate success of this undertaking. Let us hope, that as the College has already contributed not a few to the other learned professions, it will henceforth contribute largely to that of the Healing Art. But as much will depend upon the character, professional and otherwise, of those who are sent out during the first few years in this Department, I think it not irrelevant, either to your future usefulness, or to the honor of the institution that has this day conferred degrees on you, to address you briefly on the present occasion.

From the belief that you are now qualified to *practice*, the Senatus has given you the stamp of their confidence. Yet this belief would have little foundation in truth, did you entertain the notion that no farther acquisitions were necessary to your success as able and honorable practitioners. In no profession more than in yours, has experience to teach much which never can be learned within the walls of a University. Much assuredly must be learned there: yet, he who fancies that his stock of knowledge is complete, and his education perfected, when he leaves College, has reason to suspect that he has hardly begun to learn to any good purpose. What is learned during the curriculum of study, is properly the art of making higher attainments afterwards. This will not be overlooked by