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ADDRESS TO THE MEDICAL STUDENTS OF MCGILL UNIVERSITY,

AT THE OPENING OF THE SESSION OF 1892-93, OCT. 3RD, 1892.

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When asked by the Faculty of my old University to formally open the session of '92 and '93, I hesitated and considered seriously before replying. Like other busy general practitioners, I knew I could not be certain of a quiet hour, at any time in the twenty-four, to devote to so novel and important a task, and the more I thought of my audience the less willing I became. On the other hand, however, it brought me back to my college days, to my old friends and associates, my old teachers, to the old benches, and to the old methods. Of all I thought with affection, and I felt honoured and pleased to be asked to come back after so many years. I felt more strongly than ever that the Alma Mater has always her eye upon her sons; that she watches their progress through life, and now and then, like a loving and prudent mother, gives some especial encouragement, sometimes in one way and sometimes in another, as a demonstration of the universal interest she takes in all. With these feelings such an invitation was almost a command; so that in a spirit of obedience, with a good deal of pride and, I fear, very little charity towards the class of '92, I promised to come here to-day to say a few words of advice and encouragement before you settle down to the hard work of the session.