

INTRODUCTORY LECTURE
AT THE OPENING OF THE FIFTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE MEDICAL
FACULTY OF MCGILL UNIVERSITY,
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GENTLEMEN :—It is certainly a cheerful sign of the times, and a most encouraging one, to observe the deep interest taken in the medical department of this college. The position of responsibility and trust in which I am placed here to-day, in my Alma Mater, is an exceedingly pleasing one, and more particularly so, as it brings with it the very gratifying duty of an address. During the years which have passed since I left the halls of this university, many and important changes have taken place. Holmes and McCulloch, Hall and Bruneau, Fraser and Scott, Sutherland and Campbell, have all passed away, and in doing so, left a noble record of their works in the education, at this fountain of science, of many who at present are guiding and directing the best interests of our noble profession in this country. True, since even their time, medicine has undergone many and important changes which require the fullest possible consideration. The recent discoveries of Pasteur and their practical application mark the present as an era of more than ordinary interest in scientific research. In almost every department of the profession of medicine new discoveries are coming to light, and such as cannot fail to prove of immense benefit to suffering humanity. As Grant Allen expresses it, "ours has been an age