

tomy, Physiology, and Surgery, Dr. Robertson, on Midwifery and the diseases of women and children, and Dr. Caldwell, on the Principles and Practice of Medicine. The death of Dr. Caldwell, in 1832, necessitated a change, and Dr. Robertson was appointed Professor of Medicine, the late Dr. Racey of Quebec was annexed as Professor of Surgery and Midwifery, Dr. Stephenson still continuing to discharge the duties of the chair of Anatomy and Physiology. On the retirement of Dr. Racey from this city to Quebec in 1835, Drs. Campbell and Hall were associated, the former lecturing independently on Surgery and Midwifery, and the latter sharing Dr. Holmes' duties, and delivering under him the course of *Materia Medica*, after which session that course was delivered over exclusively to the latter.

During this period of time, the annual attendance of students was gradually augmenting, and this fact, together with the further division of the branches of medical study in Great Britain, determined at the decease of Dr. Robertson in 1844, a further augmentation of lecturers correspondent with an increased number of chairs. We accordingly find at this juncture, Dr. Holmes called to the chair of the Principles and Practice of Medicine; Dr. Charles Sewell, appointed to the chair of *Materia Medica*; Dr. Bruneau, to the chair of Anatomy; Dr. Hall, to the chair of Chemistry; Dr. Crawford, to that of Clinical Medicine and Surgery; Dr. McCulloch, to that of Midwifery, and Dr. Fraser, to that of Institutes of Medicine, while Dr. Campbell still retained his chair of Surgery. Since that period, with the exceptions which now appear in the staff of Professors, few alterations of magnitude have taken place, and Dr. Holmes continued to discharge until the day of his decease the various duties which devolved upon him with a rare fidelity. Since the new organization of the University he was appointed and acted as Dean of the Faculty, a position eminently his due from his long and faithful services to it, but to this he voluntarily associated the duties of treasurer, librarian and registrar, and moreover superintended in his own person all the details connected with the delivery of the courses of lectures, and the economic management of the rooms; and so strict was he in his outlays or disbursements, that his papers when handed over to Dr. Campbell, the recently appointed Dean, contained the account of the expenditure even of a *six pence*. To the Library of the Faculty he devoted especial attention, and its present condition of excellence is entirely due to his superintending care.

In his lectures the style of Dr. Holmes was not generally pleasing, but still all admit that they were characterized by minuteness of detail, and that he exhausted every subject upon which he dwelt. He was always a hard and indefatigable student, and his lectures bore evidence of that fact, in the richness and copiousness of their detail, and no new theories were broached without being brought fully under examination in his class room. It was always his desire to give the latest views, to minutely criticize them, and while separating the chaff from the wheat, to lay before his hearers things as they are, or should be, not as what many wished them to be. Hence he was, for the sake of his lectures, a laborious student. Few have longer burned the midnight oil: he seldom retired to rest, after his daily work was over, before two or three in the morning. This is a fact personally known to ourselves.