

and art. Now this increasing mental activity, manifested in a disregard for authority, in a questioning of generally accepted opinions, and in a seeking after more light and more reliable evidence, is accompanied too generally by an unfortunate desire to publish and propagate new opinions or supposed discoveries in science and art before they have become established facts; and while many valuable additions to actual knowledge, and many suggestions that bear good fruit are thus made, the serious responsibility is, at the same time, laid upon medical men, not alone of acquainting themselves with the new views and the alleged discoveries, but of finding the true among the new, and of refuting the false which may also be harmful.

But, gentlemen, there are other responsibilities assumed by you to-day in receiving the degree of M.D. of this University and becoming members of the medical profession, and of some of them permit me to speak. Your *Alma Mater* this day introduces you to the world as her sons; she entrusts her reputation to your keeping, and she will be largely judged of by the qualifications and deportment of her alumni. It will rest with you, in common with her other children, to extend her influence, maintain her prestige, nay, increase her reputation. She glories, not in her chartered privileges, her buildings and material appliances, but in her graduates—the memories and work of those gone, the character, acquirements and useful career of those living. You bear her name, render it more than ever esteemed by your attainments, your self-respect, your gentlemanly conduct and your large-mindedness.

Of your responsibilities to the State and to society, time will not allow much to be said. As loyal citizens, it is your duty to use your influence in procuring the enactment of laws that shall protect the lives and property of your fellow-subjects. But as *physicians*, it is your special province to force upon the attention of the people and their representatives the imperious necessity of careful legislation in the interests of State medicine, and especially of Sanitary Science. Use your influence with the representatives and people of your respective neighbourhoods to have established in our Dominion a Board of Health for each Province