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Rector's Address at Commencement, 1912.

Rev. Fathers, Ladies and Gentlemen,—

A most joyful duty indeed is the one that falls to my lot on this occasion. A custom, as old as the Institution itself; a custom, therefore, which is 64 years old today, bids me say a few words. My address, since such is the name, shall have one undeniable quality—briefness! But were I to give full scope to my sentiments and thoughts on this occasion, I should have every reason to believe that the only quality I now claim would soon vanish.

A duty I have to perform, and what else could it be but to thank you, kind friends of the Institution, for your loyal support and benevolent sympathies. Yes, ladies and gentlemen, in the name of the University of Ottawa, in the name of the staff of teachers and instructors whose sentiments I am proud to voice, I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

The year 1911-1912 will pass down in the annals of the College as a record-breaking year, as far as attendance is concerned. I may joyfully state that the enrolment is the highest in the history of the College, reaching this year the 700 mark. We had to triple the First Form, increase the staff of teachers, tear down partitions and put up new ones in order to afford class accommodation. This large increase is indeed very gratifying, but how