

## VALEDICTORY ADDRESS.

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GENTLEMEN GRADUATES,—Before addressing to you the few words of parting advice customary upon occasions like the present, I may be permitted, I hope, without being thought guilty of self-laudation, to take a brief retrospect of the progress of the Medical Faculty of McGill College, which I have now, for nearly a quarter of a century, been connected with as a Teacher. Upward of 34 years ago, much to their honour, four medical gentlemen in this city, the late Drs. Robertson, Caldwell and Stephenson, along with the present respected Dean of our Faculty, Dr Holmes, feeling the want and necessity of a means whereby appropriate instruction might be furnished to Students of Medicine in Canada, associated together and founded, for this purpose, the Montreal Medical Institution. The school thus organized was most successful, and, five years after its establishment, was embodied in this University, of which its Teachers constituted the Medical Faculty. These gentlemen at once took the proper ground of demanding a high standard of professional education from their graduates, and, as far as circumstances permitted, assimilated their curriculum, and the duration of their lectures, to what was then in force in the University of Edinburgh, of which they themselves were Alumni. From time to time, the Faculty thus organized, although contending against want of pecuniary means and numerous other adverse circumstances, added to the number of its Teachers