Not the old age which appears stooped and decrepit in a body bent towards the earth, with faltering gait, with a dimmed intelligence, but the old age we admire in an active and vigorous frame, with a forehead free from wrinkles; with the strength and vivacity of a mind in full activity;—in short, that beautiful and noble old age which shines with such rare and incomparable brightness in our two Doctors, Sir William Hingston and Dr. McCallum."

Dr. D. C. McCallum then rose and replied to the toast as follows:—

"Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen.—I thank you sincerely for your kindness in associating me with my friends, Dr. Rottot and Sir William Hingston, in the reception of the great honour which you have conferred upon us by this fine banquet, on the attainment of our Jubilee year in the practice of medicine. For the cordial manner in which you have responded to the toast to my health, I return you my heartfelt thanks.

"Fifty years is a long time to look forward to, but how short it appears when we take a retrospective view of the same period of time. At the beginning how slowly the years pass and we then look hopefully forward to being able to make good use of our opportunities and to accomplish much important work in the world. The backward look, however, reveals to us that although we have personally done but little to advance our own interests or those of our fellow-men the world moves on, and that during the progress of the fifty years great and important changes have taken place in our country and in the profession to which we belong.

"What was the condition of Canada in the year 1850? and how does it compare with the condition of the country fifty years after?

"In 1850 it consisted of two provinces, Upper and Lower Canada, with an area of about 550,000 square miles; having a single Parliament, migrating at stated periods from one province to the other; with separate and often conflicting provincial interests, becoming rapidly more acute and threatening seriously the peace and prosperity of the country.