

simply fulfilling the time limit of the will, it may justly be said to have saved the university at least from much involved and tedious litigation if, indeed, it did not preserve for it the bequest itself."

The improvement of medical education was even as early as this period (1837) a much discussed subject, and relevant to it is an extremely interesting report and suggestion made by Sir John Doratt, M.D., then Inspector-General of Hospitals, who was appointed by the British Government to investigate, report upon, and advise regarding this question. In this report is suggested the establishment of a medical school in the city of Quebec in connection with Hôtel Dieu and the Marine Hospitals. These hospitals, it was considered, would conjointly provide clinical beds to the number of three hundred. The selection of Quebec for the proposed medical school was due to various reasons. The population of the city was now between 30,000 and 40,000. As the principal port also for ocean shipping, it was at Quebec that the diseases continually brought by incoming vessels and the accidents from the process of loading and unloading in port were most in evidence. It was here, therefore, that the aid of medicine and surgery was most urgently required. It was felt also that the school would attract from the colonies of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island the young men who had hitherto been compelled to go abroad for an opportunity of studying medical science.

Among the suggestions regarding the course of medicine to be pursued was the proposed regulation that the whole period allotted for education at the medical school should be five years. The first three years were to be passed in strict attendance at the school of medicine and the last two years in close attendance to duties at the hospital. It was