

he was much liked and respected by all the students, and when he was buried, the students, with the consent of the friends, took the horses from the hearse, and drew it all the way to the burying-ground. In connection with Dr. Caldwell's death, I may mention that I have always been under the impression that fright or fear was the origin of his disease. I am certain it is in the knowledge of all gentlemen present that Montreal was devastated with Asiatic cholera in 1832. The first case appeared on the 8th June of that year, and out of a population of 32,000 over 4000 fell victims to that dreadful disease. After the first few weeks Dr. Caldwell became so frightened at it that he would not go to any case, but sent me, his senior student, to all and every one of his patients, no matter what the disease. Consequently I was worked to the utmost of my capacity night and day, and, as I said, I do think it was the great depression caused by his fear of taking cholera that produced the debility which ended, a few months afterwards, in gangrene of the lungs. This, together with a visitation of severe typhus fever, which broke out here in the winter of the same year, completely knocked him up. Four of his students died of it, and the writer was the only one of his students attacked who recovered. The deaths among the students amounted to over thirty, so violent was the epidemic that prevailed here after the cholera had subsided. Dr. Caldwell was an impressive lecturer.

Dr. Robertson was a quiet gentleman, never contradicted anyone, would rub his left elbow and say, "Yes, yes. I believe you are right, but I don't interfere in these things." He was a very good lecturer, and was much liked by the students.

I have already alluded to Dr. Stephenson's brusqueness to the students, and will now relate one little affair. The Lectures of the Faculty were delivered in a narrow house of three storeys that was situated about where the west end of the present Montreal Bank now stands; it ran through to Fortification lane, on which was the dissecting room. Subjects were scarce in those days, and the students had to resort to resurrectioning to obtain the necessary material. One night some of the students went out and obtained three subjects, and when we brought them in, went to Dr. Stephenson's house to ask him for the key of the dissecting room so as to place them there, but he refused to give it to us, or to allow the bodies to be placed there, and sent us off with "a flea in our

ear." We did not know what to do, so after some consultation I had them put into my hayloft, where they remained over a week. The next day, when told of the circumstance, the students held an indignation meeting and passed resolutions condemning Dr. Stephenson's conduct, which were sent to the Faculty, but we never heard what it did in the matter, although Dr. Stephenson treated all of us much better afterwards. Six of us hired an old wooden house in Craig street, nearly opposite where the *Post* newspaper office is, and dissected all winter on our own hook, but Dr. Stephenson, as Professor of Anatomy, gave all of us our certificates, and mine, when I went to Edinburgh, was received as qualifying for the Examination of the Royal College of Surgeons and of the University for the Degree.

Dr. Holmes many here present will recollect well, he died in 1860. He was a quiet, learned man and an able Lecturer. It was said of Professor Hope, who held the chair of Chemistry for very many years in the University of Edinburgh, that he was the most skillful manipulator in the world, and the same can be said of Dr. Holmes. I believe he was never known to have failed in any experiment he ever attempted before the class. After Dr. Robertson's death in 1844, Dr. Holmes became the Professor of Medicine, which position he held till his death in 1860. These are a few of the striking peculiarities of the founders of the Medical Faculty of McGill College, and they are reported to you in all reverence and respect for them, their talents and abilities. They all were an honor to the Profession, and would, even in what we are apt to term "this advanced age," have held as high and leading a position as they did fifty odd years ago. I am as certain as any one can be of the fact that it is to the example, conduct and lessons of these gentlemen, who educated the generation of Medical men who were to succeed them, that the Profession of Montreal stands as high to-day as it does. These gentlemen have passed through life's great tragedy, and fallen before the grim power against which they had waged for years a successful conflict; their success is our heritage, and their achievements our pride.

The next distinguished man that I shall speak of is Robert Nelson. This gentleman in his earlier years devoted himself to Anatomy and Physiology, and wrote an elaborate work on the latter subject; but, after devoting many years to its compilation, the whole of the manuscript was stolen from him,