

and Sciences of New Haven, (1839); and Corresponding Member of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec, (1830).

In his practice Dr. Holmes was much beloved, alike by the private families whose interests he served in the same spirit as he did the School he loved so well, and as a consulting physician. He was characterized (to quote again from the beautiful obituary notice in the *British American Journal* for 1860) "by sound judgment and acute discrimination and his opinion as a consultant was eagerly sought as one upon which reliance could be placed. He was sensitive to the amenities of the profession and spurned the advantages which his consulting practice offered him. He was therefore the friend and confidant of the younger members of the profession in this city who had no hesitation in confiding to him their doubts and difficulties. His footsteps will be missed in many a private family for his patients regarded him with feelings of the fondest affection."

Dr. Holmes's most striking characteristic is said to have been a strong religious feeling, which he carried into every department of life. He lived always, say the contemporary journals, as though he were in the presence of his Maker, and he carried an abiding sense of the presence of God into all the relations of his many-sided life. To quote again from the obituary notice: "He was emphatically the Christian gentleman. Few have worked harder than he for the advancement of Science in this City and Province, and few have associated with these labours a more sincere recognition of the Author of those works which he felt an especial delight in studying and in revealing."

He died in his 63rd year very suddenly, of fatty degeneration of the heart, on the evening of October the 9th, 1860, while in the act of writing out notices for a meeting of the Faculty which he was about to call. It seemed in keeping with his active devoted life that at the time of his death the Medical School had passed through its most critical period, and the University itself had found a pilot to better days in the person of the late Sir William Dawson. Dr. Holmes formed a link between the early pioneer founders of McGill, and the comparative prosperity of to-day. He lived to see their work placed in great part as the result of his own untiring zeal, on a secure basis, occupying the position that he himself outlined in 1823, in the scheme he drew up for the consideration of the Governor in Chief, the Earl of Dalhousie, of the "reasons why a Medical School should be inaugurated in the City of Montreal."

At his death the members of the Faculty were mourning for a month in memory of their deceased colleague, and in 1864 the Holmes Gold Medal, awarded for the highest aggregate of marks obtained in the