

CANADA

# MEDICAL JOURNAL

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

*Valedictory Address to the Graduation class in Medicine and Surgery McGill University.* Delivered on behalf of the Medical Faculty, at the Annual Convocation held in the William Molson Hall of the University, on the 2nd May, 1868. By WILLIAM WRIGHT, M.D., L.R.C.S., Edin., Professor of Materia Medica, &c.

GENTLEMEN GRADUATES :

Allow me to rejoice with you at having obtained the "*summos honores*" in medicine this University can grant. After years of patient husbandry, the seed has sprung up, and this day these *honores*, as its flowers, bloom upon your brows. May they long charm you—may the beautiful wreath ever sit lightly upon your conscience,—and may their fragrance be breathed into your heart to enlist at all times your most active sympathies. If it be your happy life to experience these good wishes,—then the object for which these *honores* have been awarded will be attained, and useful fruit succeed the flowers,—then you will be constrained to love your profession, to practice it so as to have a conscience void of offence, and to afford the calls of disease or accident the best aid the present state of art can afford.

To develop this fruit, the cells of the "*Mens Medica*" must be thoroughly furnished with stores of adequate knowledge. Hold a review from time to time of your past acquirements, inspect the forces under your command, keep the whole in proper discipline, and watch the gates of the garrison, that none desert. Without some such care, learning will disappear, and your past labour be in vain. It is true, your books are at home open to perusal,—but the practitioner must needs be a ready man. By no one else is a retentive available memory more required. Called upon in emergencies most urgent, where no delay can be brooked,