

modest benches of this school, in its infancy. They are gone, but their memory yet lives. I can still vividly recal the cheering placidity of the Nestor of the enterprise, to whose wise counsels and far-seeing predictive sagacity this school, and McGill College too, owe much more than has ever yet been accredited to him. Need I say that I allude to Dr. William Robertson? True it is, that he was not the Achilles of the longer than ten year's siege that preceded the surrender of the "Burnside" citadel, but he certainly was the able engineer who planned the lines of approach from which the final assault was to be made. In saying this, I detract not from the merits of my talented preceptor, Dr. John Stephenson, for from him I learned how valuable were the services of Dr. Robertson, who had, indeed, been his earliest medical preceptor. But valuable as were the wise counsels of Dr. Robertson in the founding of the medical school of McGill College, and in its early administration, I am abundantly warranted in stating that his services as a solid, reflective and painstaking teacher of the branches successively assumed by him were even more contributive to the ulterior success of the school. Would that, in corroboration of this frail tribute to his educational competency and zeal, I could now appeal to the testimony of others who profited by his wise and thoroughly practical precepts; but they are no longer here. I know, however, how highly they appreciated his abilities and acquirements, and I also know how valuable in after years were found his thoughtful, practical, and truly paternal instructions. In truth, we-all regarded him with filial veneration.

Of the services of Dr. Stephenson, I know not what to say commensurate with either their efficiency or the irrepressible zeal and unflinching courage with which he performed them. We are told by some historians that Queen Mary (the Tudor) said to her courtiers that her heart, if examined after death, would show the word "Calais" engraved on it. If such a pathological finding may fall within the range of imaginative anatomy, we might poetically affirm that McGill College must have been legibly inscribed on the heart of Dr. Stephenson, for it constituted the warp and woof of his thoughts by day, and of his