

moon. He assured his hearers that there was no immediate danger to the present dwellers on the earth, though he took a somewhat gloomy view of the time when our day will equal fifty-seven of the twenty-four hours, which are now popularly supposed to make up the only true day, when the earth and moon will move together as if joined by an invisible bond, and when there shall be no more tides.

There was a time when the earth, a mobile plastic body, revolving so swiftly, something under one revolution in four hours, that the centrifugal force was called into operation, and part of its bulk was given off as a satellite, revolving at a rate equal to its own—the moon, which is gradually becoming more distant in accordance with the third law of motion, and is still receding from our view, and losing its influence over the earth. In passing, he insisted on the importance of the discoveries made by Prof. Asa Hall at Washington, of the work done at Harvard, Chicago, Baltimore, and at our own observatory.

In proposing a vote of thanks, Sir Wm. Dawson mentioned the lecture as being not one of the least important benefits the people of Montreal had derived from the visit of the British Association, of which Sir Robert was the President.

THE OPENING OF THE MEDICAL SESSION.

The opening address to the students in Medicine was this year delivered by Sir James Grant, M.D., of Ottawa, Monday, Oct. 3rd, 3 p.m. Sir James is a graduate of McGill, and takes a deep interest in college affairs. Among those present were:—Sir Wm. Dawson, principal; Dr. R. P. Howard, dean; Dr. James Stewart, registrar; Drs. MacCallum, Ross, Roddick, Girdwood, Shepherd, Buller, Cameron, Wilkins, Mills, MacDonell, Gardner, Rodger, Sutherland, Bell, Alloway, Ruttan, Johnson, T. D. Reed, C. E. Cameron, R. J. B. Howard, A. W. Gardner, Lafleur, Allan, Flagg, E. H. Blackadder; besides the students of the various years. The address was short, but very comprehensive, and contained some excellent advice to the students, both Primary and Final. Sir James, in his address, paid a glowing tribute to some of our former professors, men whom, he said, had during their lifetime done so much for the Medical Faculty, and among those mentioned were Holmes, Stephenson, Sutherland, Drake, Fraser, and Scott, all men who had worked hard and earnestly, and under great difficulties, to make the Medical course of McGill second to none on this continent. He also referred in very high terms to the late Sir William Logan, who had been in his lifetime an earnest friend to the Faculty; and to Sir Wm. Dawson, the present principal, to whom, he said, great praise was due for his untiring efforts to assist the Medical Faculty in every way possible.

He referred in very eulogistic terms to the magnanimous jubilee gift of Sir Donald Smith and Sir Geo. Stephen, and said that by spending their wealth in this way, for the good of suffering humanity, those men had made themselves names which would go down to posterity. He asked the students to be in earnest, and while in college do their best; and said

he felt sure anyone who did this would be an honour to himself, his country, and his Alma Mater. The address was listened to with great interest by all, and was followed by loud and prolonged applause.

Dr. Howard, the chairman, then called on Sir Wm. Dawson, who made a few remarks. He said Sir Jas. Grant was the first Canadian physician who had been knighted as a reward for distinguished research, but hoped he was the first of many present who would at some future time be so honoured.

In the evening Sir James was the guest of the Faculty at a dinner in the St. James Club. Over thirty sat down to dinner, and a very pleasant evening was spent. The only guests beside Sir James were Dr. F. W. Campbell, dean of the Medical Faculty of Bishops; Dr. McEachern, principal of the Veterinary College; Dr. Edmondston Charles, late professor of midwifery in Calcutta; and Dr. Rodger.

The regular work of the session began on Tuesday, Oct. 4th.

Societies.

THE UNIVERSITY CLUB.

On Saturday, the 24th September last, a regular monthly meeting was held, Dr. Stewart in the chair. An exceptionally large number of members was present.

Dr. F. Buller, proposed by Prof. Moysie, seconded by Mr. Hall; and Mr. Duntun, proposed by Mr. Burland, seconded by Mr. Brown, were duly elected members of the club.

Moved by Mr. C. J. Doherty, Q.C., and seconded by Mr. R. J. Elliot:—"That this club has learned, with the most profound regret, of the death of Mr. J. Ralph Murray, one of its founders and most zealous and active officers; that the members of the club desire to express their deep sense of the loss which the club has sustained, and their sorrow at the loss of one whose distinguished abilities gave promise of his reflecting credit on the University, on the professional career on which he was just entering, and whose kindly disposition had secured for him the hearty friendship of all who knew him."

Moved by Mr. J. P. Cooke, and seconded by Mr. J. F. Mackie:—"That copies of the above resolution be sent to the friends of the late Mr. Murray, and handed to the press for publication."

The Treasurer being then called upon to give some information regarding the financial position, said he preferred to postpone a formal statement until a subsequent meeting; but that the receipts were sufficient to warrant him in saying that the club was now on a firm foundation. It only remained with the present members to carry on and strengthen the good work so well begun by its founders. He urged upon all those who had subscribed to the furnishing fund to pay in as rapidly as possible, so that the ordinary receipts should not, even for the time being, be diverted from their natural channel of improving and expanding the work so well begun.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.