

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

ANNUAL CONVOCATION

OF THE

M<sup>c</sup>GILL UNIVERSITY,

MONTREAL,

Held on Friday, the 1st, and Tuesday, the 5th of May, 1863.



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## FIRST DAY.

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The Members of Convocation having assembled in the Library of the University, in the William Molson Hall, proceeded in the usual order to the Convocation Room. In the absence of the President and of Members of the Board of Governors, the Principal took the Chair.

The following Members of Convocation were present:—

J. W. Dawson, LL.D., F.R.S., &c., Principal;

Rev. Canon Leach, D.C.L., LL.D., Vice-Principal and Dean of the Faculty of Arts;

Henry Aspinwall Howe, M.A., Rector of the High School;

W. B. Lambe, B.C.L.;

George W. Campbell, M.A., M.D., Dean of the Faculty of Medicine;

Archibald Hall, M.D., Professor of Midwifery and Diseases of Women and Children;

William Fraser, M.D., Professor of the Institutes of Medicine;

William E. Scott, M.D., Professor of Anatomy;

Rev. A. DeSola, LL.D., Professor of Hebrew and Oriental Literature;

Charles Smallwood, M.D., LL.D., Professor of Meteorology;

Charles F. A. Markgraf, Professor of German Language and Literature;

Alexander Johnson, LL.D., Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy;

Rev. George Cornish, B.A., Professor of Classical Literature;

Professor Carter, Q.C., Associate Professor of Criminal Law;

Pierre J. Darey, M.A., Professor of French Language and Literature;

Robert Craik, M.D., Professor of Clinical Surgery;

T. Sterry Hunt, Sc.D., M.A., F.R.S., &c., Professor of Applied Chemistry and Mineralogy;  
 William Craig Baynes, B.A., Secretary and Registrar of the University;  
 T. A. Gibson, M.A., Classical and Senior English Master of High School;  
 John Johnson, B.A., Classical and Senior English Master of High School;  
 George Pringle, M.D.;  
 Linus O. Thayer, M.D.;  
 E. H. Trenholme, M.D.;  
 Melbourne Tait, B.C.L.;  
 John Redpath Dougall, B.A.;  
 William McKay Wright, B.A.;  
 John Boyd, B.A.;  
 Robert W. Ferrier, B.A.;  
 James L. Mason, B.A.;  
 Caleb S. DeWitt, B.A.;  
 George Ross, B.A.;  
 Charles G. B. Drummond, B.A.;  
 Francis E. Gilman, B.A.

And others.

The Secretary read the Minutes of the last Meeting of Convocation, which were approved.

The Convocation then proceeded to the election of Fellows to represent the Body of Graduates in the Corporation for the ensuing year, when the following gentlemen were declared duly elected:—

BROWN CHAMBERLIN, M.A., B.C.L., to represent the Graduates in Arts;

WALTER JONES, M.D., to represent the Graduates in Medicine;

W. B. LAMBE, B.C.L., to represent the Graduates in Law.

THE DEAN OF THE FACULTY OF ARTS then read the list of Honours and Prizes in that Faculty, as follows:

*Graduating Class.*

CHAPMAN GOLD MEDAL—For General Standing and First Rank Honours in Moral Philosophy and Rhetoric—NORMAN WILLIAM TRENHOLME.  
 PRINCE OF WALES GOLD MEDAL—For Mathematics and Natural Philosophy—SAMPSON PAUL ROBINS.  
 Honours in Classics—*First Rank*—LEMUEL CUSHING, RICHARD G. WICKSTEED  
 Honours in Moral Philosophy and Rhetoric—*Second Rank*—THOMAS FAIRBAIRN.  
 SAMPSON P. ROBINS, Certificate in Geology.  
 LEMUEL CUSHING, Certificate in Hebrew, and in German elementary course.  
 THOMAS FAIRBAIRN, Certificate in German advanced course.



*Students of the Third Year.*

- DUFF, ARCHIBALD—1st Rank General Honours; 1st Rank Honours in Mathematics and Natural Philosophy; Certificate in Classics; Certificate in French.  
 MACGREGOR, JAMES—1st Rank General Honours; Prize in Rhetoric; Certificate in French.  
 SHERRILL, ALVAN F.—1st Rank General Honours; 1st Rank Honours in Classics; Certificate in German.  
 BOTHWELL, JOHN A.—2nd Rank General Honours; 1st Rank Honours in Rhetoric, and Prize for Essay; Prize in Zoology.  
 PEASE, GEORGE A.—2nd Rank General Honours; 2nd Rank Honours in Classics.  
 MUIR, JOHN A.—Certificate in German.

*Students of the Second Year.*

- WARDROP, ROBERT, (Brockville Grammar School)—1st Rank General Honours; 1st Rank Honours in Mathematics; Certificate in Classics, and in Botany.  
 KRANS, EDWARD H., (Stanbridge Academy)—1st Rank General Honours; 1st Rank Honours and Prize in Logic; Certificate in Classics, in Botany, and in French.  
 SHORT, ROBERT—Prize in Logic, and Essay.

*Students of the First Year.*

- BETHUNE, MEREDITH BLENCARNE, (High School, Montreal)—1st Rank General Honours; 2nd Rank Honours in Mathematics; Certificate in Classics.  
 ANDERSON, JACOB DEWITT, (High School, Montreal)—Prize in English Literature; Certificate in Classics.  
 WASHBURN, W., (Hull)—Prize for Essay in English Literature.  
 HART, LOUIS, (High School, Montreal)—Prize for Essay in English Literature; Certificate in Hebrew.

*Engineering Students—(First Year.)*

- GULIAN P. RIXFORD—Certificates in Surveying and Drawing; Certificate in Chemistry.

The Chapman Gold Medal was then presented to Mr. TRENHOLME, and it was announced that the Prince of Wales Gold Medal, not being ready, would be presented at next Meeting of Convocation.

The following Students were then presented for the Degree of B. A.:—

Norman William Trenholme,  
 Sampson Paul Robins,  
 Lemuel Cushing,  
 Thomas Fairbairn,  
 Leonidas Heber Davidson,  
 Charles Peers Davidson,  
 Richard John Wicksteed,  
 Elisha Joseph Fessenden,  
 David Prescott Merritt,  
 Frederick Stiles Lyman,  
 David Ross McCord,  
 John D. Clowe.

The Degree was then conferred by the Principal.

Mr. James L. Mason, B.A., was then presented for the Degree of M.A., which was duly conferred.

The following Students in the Special Course of Engineering were then presented for the Degree of Graduate in Civil Engineering, which was duly conferred:—

George Edwards,  
Maurice Gaviller,  
John Lestock Reid.

Mr. S. P. ROBINS, B.A., then read the Valedictory on behalf of the Graduates in Arts, as follows:—

In accordance with time-honoured custom, we, the members of the Graduating Class of this University, desire thus publicly, and with all the impressiveness which this solemn occasion adds, to tender to you whose instructions we now regretfully leave, our grateful acknowledgments of your unwearied kindness, and to bid each other farewell. Nor do we feel this an unbecoming disclosure of the sanctities of gratitude and friendship. True, we shall ever cherish amongst our most sacred recollections the remembrance of those acts of personal kindness which you, gentlemen, have so frequently manifested, and which have thrown around our relations to you so delightful a charm, veiling with the grace of courtesy and good feeling the necessary rigours of collegiate discipline. True it is that we entertain the hope of meeting in future years as friends with those to whom, in the capacity of instructors, we now bid farewell. True, too, it is that we have formed in the intercourse of years, friendships with each other not the mere transitory result of necessary companionship, but which are founded on the recognition of the excellencies of each other's character, and which will, we trust, not merely linger on, but become, though not more sincere, yet deeper and more binding, as years of trial and of trust shall show the truth and constancy of our affection for each other. But these sacred feelings we shrink from parading before the public gaze. We wish to-day on this public occasion, rather to acknowledge the more general ties which have bound us to you and to each other in this public institution, and to recognize those claims for avowed gratitude to you, and professed esteem for each other, which these public relations have involved. And this which is our manifest duty is for us the crowning pleasure of this day.

First, then, in our united capacity, we lay before you, the governing and instructing officers of this University, our thanks for the zeal for our interests with which you have consecrated to the high work of providing for and imparting instruction your eminent abilities—abilities which in many instances we have more highly valued as the expansion of our own minds gave us ampler power of appreciating yours,

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and never so highly as now, when we take our place for the last time within these walls as Students of this University. We could have wished that our success were more nearly commensurate with your skill and enthusiasm. We have many of us had to feel that amid failing health, or adverse circumstances, it was not as we *would*, but as we *could*. But of this we are conscious, that whatever of intellectual maturity we may have attained, we owe it not merely to our own industry and application, but also to that judicious guidance and counsel without which industry, however great, would have failed to reach the full accomplishment of its aims. Nay, more than this; if our fondest hopes be realized, and some members of this class attain distinction in any field of intellectual labour, we feel convinced that he whose success is greatest will most readily and most gratefully acknowledge his indebtedness to your pre-eminently faithful and able care.

And now, brothers in labour and success, this day consummates the hopes that have sustained us through days and nights of toil, sometimes arduous, sometimes even exhausting, but pleasurable always. To-day our Alma Mater confers on us the coveted marks of her approval. At this we affect no cold indifference. We rejoice at and congratulate each other on our success. But the hand that blends the golden and crimson splendours of the sunset with the sombre shadows of the cool and starry night, tempers every human joy with sadness. There is none of us so cold of heart that he can lightly regard the inevitable sundering of associations so pleasant as those which have linked us to each other. Even now, when, flushed with past triumph, our hearts strain forward to the future beating high with hope, we cannot but feel the pang of the present parting, and look back with a yearning wishfulness to the happy hours past and gone for ever. Past and gone for ever? Nay, not so; these hours shall live for ever in their blessed influences. When wearied with the toils of future life, the voices of the past shall cheer us to renewed and vigorous effort. When the world seems hard and cold—when faith and trust falter—when gloomy phantoms evoked by disappointment and betrayal fill the darkened heart, forth shall start from those sunny hours now passing memories of friendships which not even the keenness of intellectual rivalry could sever; and abashed in presence of the gladsome past, the ill-omened shapes that fill the present and threaten the future shall waver, fade, and disappear. The days that now have past can no more die than the love of a departed friend. While memory and thought live they shall live.

And the joy with which we greet this day is tempered, too, by the

feeling of our enhanced responsibilities. Here at this little breathing-space between the past and the future, between preparation for our work and our work itself, we take with overwhelming awe a survey of the vastness of life and the solemnity of its issues. We hear afar with strange emotion the roar of the great conflict in which we must so soon mingle—in which we must put at hazard more than health, or wealth, or honour, or life, where *all* that we have, or hope, or are, must be staked, must be won or lost. We see that right and wrong, justice and injustice, truth and error, virtue and vice, mingle there in perpetual conflict, and while we would fain side with the true, the noble, and the good, we see overmastering evil prevalent. Who can wonder if we turn away with reluctance from the quiet shades of Academus to face the dangers of a conflict so terrible. How gigantic the evil! How weak are we! But, courage, brothers. He who sides with justice, truth and virtue,—shall I say it?—with GOD—though he fall, shall falling conquer!

Farewell, brothers. The resistless might of swiftly speeding time brings us to the hour of parting. Our paths that for a little while have met and mingled, now again diverge, how widely none may know. Some at the bar, in halls of legislation, in the walks of science, amid the combinations of trade, will, we trust, win high distinction. Can it be? Nay we will fain hope it cannot be—that any noble heart this day with us full freighted with fair promise, shall, wrecked on stormy seas, go down into dark waters. Let our divided paths be sundered far as poverty and wealth—as distinction and obscurity, if God will, but let them not be sundered far as heaven from hell. Farewell, brothers.

To those students of the University who shall in subsequent years succeed to our rank and duties, we offer our kindest wishes that your success may be year by year more marked, and that well-won honours may be better worn.

To the audience who grace by their presence this Convocation, among whom we remark many of those who in aiding by their time, their influence, and their wealth, this University in its undeserved struggle with narrow means, have at once proved themselves benefactors of their race, and laid the most weighty claims for gratitude upon posterity, we return cordial thanks for their countenance and support, trusting that they will, if possible, take a continually increasing interest in this University, and find abundant reward in the consciousness of good well attempted, and successfully accomplished.

To all, farewell.



The Graduates in Arts were then addressed by Rev. Professor CORNISH as follows :—

*Gentlemen :*

The proceedings of this day mark the completion of another year in the history of this University and the termination of your College course. You meet with us, in the capacity of Students, for the last time, and the University has now conferred upon you those academic distinctions and honours, for the attainment of which you have for years past been earnestly striving. In accordance with our yearly custom, it devolves upon me, on behalf of your Professors, to address a few parting words to you, ere we send you forth into the active duties and struggles of life. During the years that you have been under our charge your conduct, as a class, your devotion to your studies, and also your success, have won our approbation and esteem; hence the interest with which we now part with you, is one of a higher character than that which springs from a merely official relationship. In saying this, I am sure that I am giving utterance to the sentiments of all my brother Professors respecting you.

I repeat, gentlemen, you meet here this day for the last time in the capacity of Students. To this point, during the past, your several paths have been converging;—from this point, they henceforth diverge, and lead you into those various departments of human labour and trial, which it may be your lot to occupy in future. Apart, then, from other considerations, this fact of itself invests the proceedings of this hour with a touching interest to you. The friendships formed at College, when based upon a right foundation, are among the most healthful and cherished that men contract with each other. You have doubtless formed such friendships;—let not this day dissolve them, but carry them away with you, and cultivate them, for they may prove green and sunny spots when all around you may be blasted and dark. May your future course prove, that the training you have here received, and the efforts you have here put forth, have not been in vain.

But do not leave us, gentlemen, with the false impression, which it is to be feared some entertain, that your education is finished, and that the books and studies of the College will be of no further use to you. As professional men, you could not make a greater, nor more fatal, mistake. The lawyer, the physician, and the divine, if they would be prosperous and useful, must never divest themselves of the character of hard students, whether it be in the domain of literature, or the study and observation of the phenomena of nature and the char-

acters and conduct of men. In one sense only can your education be said to be finished ; that is, so far as the opportunity of giving your undivided time and attention to the acquisition of knowledge is concerned. But it remains for you, through your whole career, by study and observation, to add to the knowledge and training you have here gained, and thus daily to be making your education more complete. The University cannot, and does not profess to, do all the work for you so as to render your future personal efforts unnecessary ; but only to give you a right start, and put you in the proper way of working well for yourselves. The training of the College has a higher end in view than the impartation merely of a fixed amount of knowledge, in the various departments of study which it prescribes. That system does not discharge the high and important functions of education, which only forcibly exacts the acquisition of certain rudiments of learning, and, by incessant diligence, implants in the reluctant and sluggish mind seeds of knowledge, which shall lie buried there, as in a sepulchre, unused and forgotten. True education aims not so much at storing the mind with dry, hard facts, as at developing and training its powers, so that it may be enabled to observe, and use rightly, the facts and truths of science in all its branches. Its object is, moreover, to excite and foster a love of knowledge and of letters, without which love the lessons of the College will degenerate into a disagreeable pedantry, or be cast aside and forgotten. However great your progress, during your College course, may have been in the various branches of learning, there will still lie before you vast fields unexplored ; and your success in the search after further discoveries will depend, mainly, upon your own unaided exertions. The work, then, of your education is not done, but only begun. And as the athlete of old put himself under the vigorous training of the master, and endured the toilsome exercises of the gymnasium, that he might win the chaplet of victory ; —so your training here has only been preparatory to the struggle you will have to make, would you win eminence in your respective spheres and professions in the future. Henceforth, with the favour of the Almighty, it will depend much upon yourselves, whether you come off conquerors or sink down by the wayside in idleness and indifference. This victory can only be won by faithful and constant efforts for the attainment of higher excellence. Let this be your fixed purpose and daily effort, and you shall assuredly attain unto eminence, and bring honour to the University which, after years of watchfulness and guidance, now sends you forth into life with her best wishes for your future eminence and success.

But, gentlemen, I would not have my remarks confined to the education of the intellect alone;—of vastly higher importance is it, that a proper training and a right bias should be given to your moral nature, for if *it* goes wrong, *all* will be wrong. In making these remarks, which I have next to address to you, I rejoice in the conviction, that they are needed not so much in the way of warning as of friendly advice. One condition of your obtaining the Degree, which has just been conferred on you, is, that your past moral character and conduct must have been good. I am happy to say that such has been the case. But as it is our desire, as a Faculty, to exercise over those entrusted to our care an influence higher than the merely intellectual, so it is no more than fitting that a portion of my address to you should be of a practical, moral character. Soon you will have to enter upon active life, professional or commercial, and you will be called upon to take your place among men in the great, busy world. Every one of us has his own work to do:—and this is especially true in a state of society such as is ours in these colonies. Idle, useless men are a curse anywhere;—they are doubly so here;—we can afford to keep no drones in the hive. Work, of some kind, is the law of our existence; in it, and by it, is it ordained that we shall find happiness, prosperity and usefulness. Human nature is fallen, and, at best, but imperfect. This depravity and imperfection manifest themselves in various and numerous phases. With these you will be brought into contact;—nor can you reasonably hope or expect, that your experience in life will be so extraordinary, that selfishness, unprincipled ambition, dishonesty, sensualism and other evil spirits, which reign in men's hearts, will not present themselves to you, either to tempt or oppose you. Not always are honour, integrity and purity the means by which high social position, or success in business, is attained; on the contrary, the vices which are the opposites to these virtues often prove the stepping-stones to those positions, which the world most highly esteems, aye, and many men honourably strive after. Hence, the temptation to depart from the path of strict integrity and honour frequently presents itself;—a temptation hard for the beginner in life to withstand, and one which, in too many cases, proves too strong for its victims. The issue and result of yielding to such temptation, however, must be moral degradation and the foundation of a character of meanness, selfishness and unmanliness, though there may not be open social dishonour. Now, as a safeguard against this, I wish to impress upon you, the paramount importance of the cultivation and formation of good moral habits, as the foundation of good moral character, since

without this there can be no true manhood nor real manliness. Moral character is a matter of prime importance to every man, because it is a thing not thrust upon him from without, but his own creation; and, as such, is the only possession he can really call his own. Compared with this, land, houses, money, are his property only in a secondary sense;—for these, owing to innumerable causes over which he has no control, may “take to themselves wings and fly away,” and leave their possessor desolate and naked; but the character a man forms no one can take from him;—it is emphatically his own. God has made us, in this matter, *active* and not *passive* beings; has made us free agents, that we may form our own characters, and not have them formed for us. Character is the result and product of our free and independent agency, and forms the ground of our responsibility. And in this moral character lies the only true test and measure of a man’s real worth;—a test more infallible than that of genius, high attainments, social position, or worldly wealth. By this the “Judge of all the earth” will form His estimate of every one of His creatures, and will award their doom. Hence the results of our moral character on the future are unspeakably great in their importance. It is, moreover, the only thing we shall bear with us into that future;—it will be ever with us;—and so long as reason and consciousness endure, will it endure, forming the ground of our everlasting well-being or woe. It is, therefore, of transcendent importance to every man, and the chief value and glory of our holy religion is the relation in which it stands to man’s moral character. Its design is to produce the highest and holiest type of character;—in short to transform the human soul into the image of the ever-blessed God. Study, therefore, gentlemen, whilst in the discharge of your daily duties, the formation of such a character as this. This alone will form a sure and solid foundation for whatever eminence you may, with praiseworthy ambition, strive to reach in this world’s affairs.

Remember, too, that the first condition of success, in every profession, is earnest and constant application to its duties. “Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might,” should be your motto and principle of procedure in all things. A man, in entering upon the duties, either of College or of life, cannot make a mistake more fatal to his future prospects than to entertain the notion that he is a *genius*, and can, on that account, neglect, with impunity, those hard processes and duties by means of which his fellows achieve success. As a rule, both in College and in public life, it is not the genius, who relies upon his impulses and intuitions, that wins the highest honours or does the



most good, but the plodding, conscientious worker. The record of your past and present achievements, as a class, happily shows that it is not as geniuses but as workers that you would be known.

Among the habits which the training of the University is calculated to produce, *punctuality* and *promptitude* occupy no mean place. An irregular and indifferent student is, generally, an unsuccessful one;—the same will be found true in the active business of life. That which our "hand findeth to do" should be done not only "with all our might," but also at its proper time. You will find in life, as in the College, that every day and every hour, will have its appropriate work, and that only by promptly doing the business of the day will you be able to proceed smoothly and satisfactorily, both to yourself and to others. As each day, as it dawns upon you, will bring its own duties and cares, so, as it dies, let it bear away with it its anxieties and toils, and not leave them a burthensome legacy to its successor to be, in all likelihood, neglected for ever. Do not expect to rise to eminence in any department in life without strict attention to this matter of punctuality and promptitude; a few may seem able to afford to disregard it, but these form the exception and not the rule. Let there be also *method* and *system* in your work. Your success in the future, no less than in the past, will depend much upon this. It is in this very thing that the patient, methodical worker often outstrips and conquers the erratic genius. "Everything in its time and place, and a time and place for everything," is a maxim useful to all alike. The most mighty Worker, the Creator of the Universe, is the most methodical and systematic. In His works is discovered the very perfection of method and system, and He would have His creatures in this, as in other things, imitate Him.

Attention to this matter will help you very much in the cultivation of another prime element of success in professional life;—I mean a strict regard to the rights and claims which others may have upon you, in your professional capacity. Here is the sphere for the operation of conscience; for unless you allow her to take cognizance of your professional conduct, as well as your other actions, your work will be but imperfectly done. Many men act in the daily business of their lives as if it were a region into which conscience must never intrude herself, and over which she must exercise no control. They are lavish in their promises, but stingy and sluggish in their performances, and that, too, to the manifest detriment of others. The physician would, with justice, bring down upon his own head the execrations of the whole community, who should promise to visit a man in extreme peril,

but should wilfully neglect to do so and leave him to his fate. Of the same character, though less in degree, is the moral guilt of the lawyer who neglects the case of his client, or of the merchant who disappoints and deceives his customers. In fact our daily actions go to the formation of habits, and habits to the formation of character, and character is either morally good or bad;—hence, we are safe, only as *all* our conduct is brought under the supervision of an enlightened conscience. Let your professional conduct be based upon a conscientious regard for the rights of others, and it will be a tower of strength to you, and a source of confidence and esteem from your fellow-men.

Allow me, further, gentlemen, to impress upon your minds the importance, and the duty, of *self-government* in all things. The man who, in his transactions with others, yields himself up to the impulses of selfishness, or to the promptings of unprincipled ambition, or to the gratification of his appetites and passions, is, with his own hands, sapping the foundation of all moral excellence and happiness, and is laying up a store of bitter reminiscences in the future, which shall be as poignant as the sting of scorpions. No man can indulge in sinful practices without injury to *himself*, as well as to others. The declaration of Holy Writ is, "He that sinneth against Me wrongeth his own soul;"—yes, and, in too many cases, his body too, as the observation of every one of us can testify. A young man cannot make a greater mistake than to suppose that the indulgence in vicious courses, in the time of youth, is a trifling matter, and that a man may reform and rise to eminence after he has "sown his wild oats," as it is flipantly termed. No vice, of any kind, is trifling, either in its character or its results; and, as to the *sowing* alluded to, be sure of this, that it will not be *unproductive*, but the seed will take root, spring up, and produce a plenteous and bitter crop of sorrow and remorse. For "Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap: he that soweth to the flesh, shall of the flesh reap corruption: he that soweth to the Spirit, shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting." Receive then, gentlemen, these words of exhortation, as spoken on behalf of those who feel a deep interest, not only in your temporal, but also your moral welfare. They are uttered, not from suspicion nor lack of confidence in you;—not in a spirit of reproof, but of friendly advice, that you may have warning of the characters and temptations that await you, as well as others, as you enter upon life.

This day the University sends you forth with the pleasing assurance that, as her sons, you will, with credit, maintain her honour and seek to advance her interests. Much yet remains to be done in advancing

the cause of higher education, and she needs all the sympathy and co-operation of her children to aid her in doing her share in this important work. Education is the handmaid of religion;—by itself, of course, it cannot secure to a people the highest moral and spiritual good. But on the other hand, religion is greatly hindered in its progress without its co-operation; and, therefore, in no way can you more forcibly show that you have at heart the prosperity of the land in which we dwell, than by striving to strengthen and extend the influence of sound education. The man who by his social influence, or by the contribution of his wealth, endeavours to uphold and advance the cause of education, adds more to the greatness and glory of his country than he who wins new territory by the sword, inasmuch as he is engaged in the furtherance of a power greater and more enduring, and more glorious in its results, than that of the sword;—the power of truth and knowledge. And the nation with whom this dwells must be great and strong in moral influence;—whilst that in which it is not found, lacks one of the most powerful agents for counteracting the causes of national demoralisation and decay. For the more highly men are educated, the more conservative do they become of all that is good and noble in the life of their country, and the better able to detect and banish all that militates against it.

Go forth, then, gentlemen, and by your earnest devotedness in this great work evince your loyalty and patriotism, as well as your interest and co-operation in the great work in which your Alma Mater is engaged. May all good be vouchsafed unto you, and may your future career be one of ever-growing prosperity, usefulness and honour.

The PRINCIPAL then announced that the following Honorary and *ad eundem* Degrees had been granted by the University:—

The Degree of M.A. *honoris causa* to the Rev. Alexander F. Kemp, of Montreal.

The Degree of B.A. *ad eundem* and that of M.A., in Course, to the Rev. Professor Cornish, B.A., of the University of London.

The Degree of B.A. *ad eundem* to the Rev. James Davidson, B.A., of Bishops' College, Lennoxville.

The Principal then said:—

*Gentlemen of Convocation:*

This University, ever chary in the bestowal of its honours, has been more than usually so in the past year. I have on this occasion to announce but one Honorary Degree, that of Master of Arts, bestowed on the Rev. Alexander F. Kemp. Mr. Kemp is an *alumnus*

of the University of Edinburgh, and has distinguished himself here by his researches in the natural history of the Algæ, and by his useful efforts in popularising Natural History. Men who thus, amidst the toils of active professional life, can successfully prosecute scientific studies, are few among us, and it becomes the University to acknowledge their services. The Corporation has also wisely determined to connect more closely with itself, by an *ad eundem* Degree, the Rev. George Cornish, our Professor of Classics, to whose admirable address you have just listened, and whose services have been and are so valuable to the College. Professor Cornish is a Graduate of the University of London; and by this act of the Corporation will rank as a Master of Arts of this University, of the date of 1860.

It becomes us in this, the first annual meeting of Convocation in this our new and commodious hall, to look back with gratitude to Providence for the generous friends raised up for this University, and for the prosperity which has attended its efforts in the years that are past, and to look forward with hope to the succession of graduates trained for the work of life, who may leave this hall, and through whom we hope to make this University one of the most powerful levers for elevating the whole character of society in this country. We may, I think, well congratulate the Faculty of Arts on the success of the past session, on the number of its students, and on the unusually large number of men whom it has sent up for graduation; and of whom I can say, from my own knowledge, that their increased number is no indication of inferiority either in mind or training to any previous graduating class. It is also a reason for congratulation that, while some are from our own High School, so many of these young men are from the country (and I may specially mention St. Francis College), and that the College is thus making itself useful far beyond the limits of this city. I must say, however, that the number of our graduating class still falls below my hopes and desires. Were the value of University education appreciated as it deserves, were the public fully aware of the benefits to be derived by young men from a systematic course of study under the body of able professors constituting our Faculty of Arts, I have no doubt that our number of students would be increased four-fold. I might appeal to the young men who graduate to-day, and ask them to compare their mental condition four years ago and at the present moment, and to estimate the amount of their fitness for entering on the work of life then and now. Could I present this difference clearly to the minds of those who do not know by experience the benefits of liberal culture, I believe our class rooms

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would soon require to be enlarged to contain the students who would flock to us. But this cannot be. At present only the few will be wise enough to withstand the tendency in this country to rush prematurely and imperfectly educated into the business of life; and the increasing number of our graduates occupying the prominent positions in society, will alone, by experience of the benefits received, determine greater numbers of students to the University. Still, when the present condition of our Canadian society is considered, we have great reason to be gratified with the number of students already attending on this Faculty. In connection with this subject it should be more generally understood that the University course differs both in extent and in kind from that of other institutions of education. The modes of study and instruction are different from those of the school; the number of highly cultivated minds directed to special subjects and brought to bear on the mind of the student is greater; and subjects are embraced in the course which cannot be properly attended to in the lower grades of education. It is also to be observed that the course in Arts, though not regarded as so directly practical as that in the professional faculties, is really as much so. Its literary culture in classics, English, and modern languages, is essential to the highest success in many important professions. Its studies of mind and morals are of equal importance in every position. Its mathematical training and study of physical science are the very elements of usefulness in important pursuits—elements for want of which many men go halting all their days. Its studies in chemistry and natural history are most intimately connected with the utilising of the natural resources of the country. Its general culture is that which usually for the first time makes a young man aware of his own powers and how to use them. Even in this, which is not the highest aspect of the subject, the course of study in Arts occupies a position which, while different from that of the elementary school on the one hand and the professional school on the other, is not inferior to either, and should be the necessary connecting link of the one with the other. It is quite in accordance with this view of the subject, that by our Honour courses, and our special and partial courses of study, we seek to connect the Faculty of Arts more intimately with the practical business of life; and though these efforts have as yet brought us few students, in comparison with those of our general undergraduate course, I believe that much of the success of the College is due to them. One of them, the Course of Engineering, has now been continued for five years. It has received none of that public encouragement which an effort of this kind, the only one in the Pro-

vince, merits, and which it would have received in any other country. On the contrary, it has been regarded with jealousy, and has met with opposition on the part of members of the profession which it has sought to benefit. Its graduates are, however, increasing in numbers and rising to that consideration in their profession which the training they have received warrants, and I have no doubt that if we maintain the school for a few more years, their influence will enable it fully to assert the position which it should occupy with reference to the preparation for this important profession. I make these remarks, because I know and lament that multitudes of our young men are drifting into manhood uneducated, when our doors are open to receive them; and because we are most desirous that the benefits of the excellent course of study established here should not be confined to a few, but be felt throughout Canada.

The Rev. Professor CORNISH then pronounced the Benediction.

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## SECOND DAY.

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In the absence of the President, ANDREW ROBERTSON, Esq., M.A., one of the Governors, took the Chair.

The following members of Convocation were present:—

- Andrew Robertson, M.A.;  
 William Molson, Esq.;  
 J. W. Dawson, LL.D., F.R.S., &c., Principal;  
 Rev. Canon Leach, D.C.L., LL.D., Vice-Principal and Dean of the Faculty of Arts;  
 Walter Jones, M.D.;  
 W. B. Lambe, B.C.L.;  
 George W. Campbell, M.A., M.D., Dean of the Faculty of Medicine;  
 Archibald Hall, M.D., Professor of Midwifery and Diseases of Women and Children;  
 William Fraser, M.D., Professor of the Institutes of Medicine;  
 William Sutherland, M.D., Professor of Chemistry;  
 William E. Scott, M.D., Professor of Anatomy;  
 Robert P. Howard, M.D., Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine;  
 Rev. A. DeSola, LL.D., Professor of Hebrew and Oriental Literature;  
 Frederick W. Torrance, M.A., B.C.L., Professor of Civil Law;  
 P. R. Lafrenaye, B.C.L., Professor of Jurisprudence and Legal Bibliography;  
 R. G. Laflamme, B.C.L., Professor of Customary Law and Law of Real Estate;  
 Charles Smallwood, M.D., LL.D., Professor of Meteorology;  
 D. C. McCallum, M.D., Professor of Clinical Medicine and Medical Jurisprudence;  
 Rev. George Cornish, M.A., Professor of Classical Literature;  
 Edward Carter, Q.C., Associate Professor of Criminal Law;  
 Pierre J. Darey, M.A., Professor of French Language and Literature;  
 Robert Craik, M.D., Professor of Clinical Surgery;

William Craig Baynes, B.A., Secretary and Registrar of the University;  
 Linus O. Thayer, M.D.;  
 John Wallworth Pickup, M.D.;  
 Francis Wayland Campbell, M.D.;  
 Charles Richard Nicholls, M.D., Surg.-Major, Grenadier Guards;  
 Henry G. H. Lawrence, M.D., Asst.-Surgeon, Grenadier Guards;  
 E. H. Trenholme, M.D.;  
 William F. Gairdner, B.C.L.;  
 Louis Armstrong, B.C.L.;  
 Gonsalve Doutre, B.C.L.;  
 Robert C. Cowan, B.C.L.;  
 James Kirby, M.A., B.C.L.;  
 James L. Mason, M.A.;  
 Wm. E. Bullock, B.A.;  
 John Boyd, B.A.;  
 Charles G. B. Drummond, B.A.;  
 Francis E. Gilman, B.A.;  
 George Ross, B.A.;  
 D. R. McCord, B.A.;  
 R. J. Wicksteed, B.A.;  
 F. Lyman, B.A.;  
 L. Cushing, B.A.;  
 David P. Merritt, B.A.;  
 Thomas Fairbairn, B.A.;  
 Charles Peers Davidson, B.A.;  
 L. H. Davidson, B.A.;  
 E. J. Fessenden, B.A.;  
 John D. Clowe, B.A.;  
 N. W. Trenholme, B.A.,  
 And others.

The proceedings were opened with prayer by the Rev. the VICE-PRINCIPAL.

The DEAN OF THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE then announced the Honours and Prizes in that Faculty as follows:—

GUSTIN, W. C., Prize for the best Thesis.

MARSTON, JOHN J., Prize for the best Final Examination.

MCDUGALL, PETER A.,  
 KENNEDY RICHARD A., } Prize for best Primary Examination.  
 BULLEN, C. F.,

REID, K., Professor's Prize in Materia Medica.

SENKLER, A. E., } Professor's Prizes in Clinical Medicine.  
 REID, K.,

LANGRELL, R. T.—Prize in Botany.

MCINNES, W. J. MCG.—Prize in Zoology.

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## STUDENTS WHO HAVE PASSED THE EXAMINATIONS IN NATURAL HISTORY.

- BOTANY.** (*Class 1st*)—R. T. Langrell, A. Falkner, H. L. Vercoe, W. Gardner, J. Hayes, L. H. Reid, E. Langley, J. J. Hervey, W. R. Meigs, H. B. Hunt, P. Robertson, J. C. Roberts, A. C. Grahame, Julius Leavitt. (*Class 2nd*)—G. Evans, A. R. Pinet, F. A. Cox, A. K. Ferguson, J. A. Knowles, W. W. Clerk, J. Vernier, C. H. Cooke, A. W. Godfrey, J. L. Loomis, J. Alexander, J. Brandon, R. F. Burch, F. D. Lang. (*Class 3rd*)—R. C. Blair, A. Gendron, G. W. Marston, W. Wakeham, F. McLennan, J. N. Dufort, W. Dougan, P. E. Paradis, J. C. Jones, D. R. Fraser, R. S. Parker, Jas. Nesbitt, J. O'Leary, S. Kemp, A. Beaudet, J. C. Irvine, J. C. Ferguson.
- ZOOLOGY.** (*Class 1st*)—W. J. McG. McInnes, S. Campbell. (*Class 2nd*)—E. Walsh, R. T. Langrell, A. C. Godfrey, R. S. Markell.

The following Students were then presented for the Degree of M.D., C.M. :—

| <i>Name.</i>            | <i>Residence.</i>            | <i>Subject of Thesis.</i>       |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| HORATIO C. BURRITT,     | Smith's Falls, C.W.,         | { Fracture of the Lower Ex-     |
| WILLIAM W. GORDON,      | Bathurst, N.B.,              | { tremity.                      |
| JAMES L. MASON, M.A.,   | Montreal, C.E.,              | Elephantiasis Graecorum.        |
| JEAN B. BLANCHET,       | Quebec, "                    | Modes of Death.                 |
| FRANK H. BRATHWAITE,    | Barrie, C.W.,                | Rheumatisme Aigue.              |
| ANGUS MACDONALD,        | Lancaster, "                 | { Some of the causes of Typ-    |
| JOHN H. BURLAND,        | Montreal, C.E.,              | { hoid Fever.                   |
| ALPHONSE BRODEUR,       | Varennnes, "                 | { Pulmonary Vesicular Em-       |
| WILLIAM W. DICKSON,     | Packenham, C.W.,             | { physema.                      |
| JAMES H. SAWYER,        | Belleville, "                | Ovarian Dropsy.                 |
| ELI IVES,               | Compton, C.E.,               | { L'Influence des ages sur le   |
| ROBERT MCINTOSH,        | Newcastle, C.W.,             | { développement des Maladies.   |
| JOHN J. MARSTON,        | L'Orignal, "                 | Nature and Modes of Death.      |
| PETER E. BROWN,         | Lake of Two Mountains, C.E., | Depression.                     |
| ALBERT E. SENKLER,      | Brockville, C.W.,            | Diphtheria.                     |
| ANTOINE A. DESAULNIERS, | Riviere du Loup, C.E.,       | { Croup, its nature and treat-  |
| PIERRE RAINVILLE,       | St. Marie de Monnoir, C.E.,  | { ment.                         |
| HONORE THERIEN,         | Riviere David, C.E.,         | Morbus Coxarius.                |
| GEORGE WOOD,            | Shefford, "                  | Pneumonia.                      |
| DONALD J. GRANT,        | Glengarry, C.W.,             | Enteric Fever.                  |
| HENRY GRAHAM,           | Bell's Corners, "            | Dyspepsie.                      |
| WILLIAM E. BESSEY,      | Georgetown, "                | Hémorrhagies Puerpérales.       |
| LOUIS P. A. GRENIER,    | Lotbiniere, C.E.,            | Purgatifs.                      |
| EDWARD C. MALLOCH,      | Ottawa, C.W.,                | Psoriasis.                      |
| WILLIAM C. GUSTIN,      | London, "                    | Scarlatina.                     |
| THOMAS ROSS,            | Aylmer, C.E.,                | Dysentery.                      |
| JAMES AYLEN,            | " "                          | Anæsthesia.                     |
| JAMES H. FULTON,        | Winchester, C.W.,            | Causes Occultes des Maladies.   |
| FRANCIS D. THERIAULT,   | Beauharnois, C.E.,           | Arsenicum.                      |
| FRANKLIN GOFORTH,       | Thorold, C.W.,               | Diphtheria.                     |
| JAMES WINNIET DIGBY     | Brantford, "                 | Variola.                        |
|                         |                              | { Sketch of the Practice of Me- |
|                         |                              | { dicine in the uncivilized     |
|                         |                              | { world.                        |
|                         |                              | Scrofulosis.                    |
|                         |                              | { Laringite Pseudo-Membra-      |
|                         |                              | { neuse.                        |
|                         |                              | Erysipelas.                     |
|                         |                              | Variola.                        |

The Degree was then conferred by the Principal.

The Valedictory on behalf of the Graduates in Medicine was then read by HORATIO C. BURRITT, M.D., C.M.

Professor CRAIK then addressed the Students in Medicine in the following terms:—

*Gentlemen:*

The ceremony through which you have just passed is one which is well calculated to make a deep and lasting impression upon your minds, for it not only marks an important period of your lives, but it possesses a significance which, I trust, you fully comprehend and appreciate.

The University has this day conferred upon you the honour for which you have been striving during the last four years,—an honour which consists not merely in an empty title, but which implies your fitness for a position of influence and responsibility. You have completed the prescribed course of study, and your teachers, after a careful and searching examination, have declared you to be “learned in the Science of Medicine and Masters of the Art of Surgery”. But it cannot be pretended that entering this stately Hall as students only, you are to leave it as accomplished practical physicians. The ceremonial of to-day possesses no such magic influence,—it merely marks the point at which one part of your studies ends and another and more important part begins. It is with reference to this latter part of your studies that, in taking leave of you, I offer a few words of parting counsel.

Gentlemen, I trust that you are fully conscious of the importance of the duties on which you are now entering. You are assuming a vast responsibility. You have equipped yourselves like a band of warriors to ward off the attacks and to stop the ravages of the most insidious and the most insatiable of enemies; and you must remember that yours is a very peculiar position. You are not to go forth as a united band, where a steady discipline will maintain you in your ranks, and where you will be cheered by the presence and support of your comrades. Each of you has to march forth alone, and must be prepared to act unsupported in any emergency which may arise. Not in the glare of day and before admiring spectators are your laurels to be won. In darkness and in solitude must your struggles be maintained.

Each of you who in after life shall practise his profession will doubtless find himself in circumstances where, humanly speaking, life or death is in his hands. He may be out of the reach of all additional assistance, or the danger may be so urgent that the time in his hands may be counted by seconds. A decision as to his line of practice must be come to on the spot. There is no time for consulting others, no

opportunity for referring to books; and now if he be found wanting, how terrible is the result? Losses of almost every other kind may be made good, mistakes as to any other subject may be rectified; but the vital spark once fled,—no sacrifice, no effort, can restore it.

You will often hear it remarked of a timid or of an indolent physician or surgeon that, if he can do no good, he will at least do no harm; but a moment's reflection will show the utter fallacy of such a conclusion; for a doctor's sins of omission are quite as fatal as his sins of commission; and he who stands impotently by, or runs affrighted away, when a fellow-creature's life is in mortal peril and might be saved by prompt and skilful interference, is no more free from blood-guiltiness, than he who slays his victim by ignorant presumption or reckless officiousness.

To fit yourselves for the proper discharge of your responsible duties you must continue to be diligent students. Medicine is essentially a progressive science. The improvements of one year are constantly being superseded by discoveries in the next, and your duty to your patients requires you to furnish yourselves with every available means of resisting disease and death.

Gentlemen, the life which you have chosen is no mere pastime. You need not expect to dream away your time on beds of roses. Your life must be one of labour, for in every part of your career you will meet with difficulties to be surmounted, trials to be endured, and arduous duties to be performed.

In the earlier years of your practice, however qualified you may be, most of you will have to contend against neglect, distrust and prejudice ere you can convince the public that you deserve their confidence; and it will require all your fortitude to reconcile you to the slow process by which you are to win professional success, while your youthful ardour prompts you to carry the citadel of public confidence by storm.

You will also have to contend against what seem to be the prevailing weaknesses, if not the vices, of this age. I allude to scepticism and credulity. You will be jostled in your work by quacks and charlatans. You will find men writing books and delivering lectures to prove that all the science of medicine,—that is of regular medicine,—is mere guess work or worse, and that all the labours of all the physicians since the earliest times have taught us absolutely nothing. These writers and lecturers, however, never fail to add that *they* have somehow acquired the grand secret, and that *they* can readily cure all the ills that flesh is heir to, and especially such as are usually considered incurable.

But the wonder is not so much that ignorant and unscrupulous men

should thus write and speak, but that so many believe their wholesale assertions; and it is not merely among the less educated classes that this fallacy prevails, for any one who observes what goes on around him, will soon see that even the best educated classes are largely infected with it.

Now, that this tendency to adopt the bold assertions of the quack doctors and to regard medicine as utterly devoid of a scientific foundation is a fallacy, it is impossible for any one to doubt who considers the subject with attention. The object of medicine being the cure of disease or the alleviation of suffering, it is plain that he who would succeed in it must make himself acquainted with the natural structure and functions of the human body, with the manner in which these are altered and affected by disease, with the natural characters of diseases themselves, with the nature and effects of remedies, and with the experience of past ages. Now in all this the student of medicine is merely doing for his subject, what every man does for whatever he may undertake. He is studying the facts and laws of nature as they concern his profession, and he brings to his aid that which the experience and sagacity of others have added to the common stock of knowledge.

Surely there can be no better conceivable method by which medicine ought to be learnt. He who is best acquainted with the objects of his profession, with the means at his disposal, and with the knowledge transmitted from past times, is certainly far more likely to prove a successful practitioner than he who despises study, and who, because in the treatment of the diseases affecting the wonderfully complex frame of man, absolute certainty has not been attained, at once asserts that medicine is unworthy the name of a science.

The common sense of the community in every-day matters contrasts favorably with their judgment in this respect. If a man's watch go seriously wrong, he does not trust it in the hands of one who has never studied the mechanism of watches. If a merchant's business be in disorder and bankruptcy stare him in the face, he does not seek the advice of those who have no knowledge of the laws which regulate commerce and finance; and yet these same men in matters where their own lives and the lives of their families are concerned, will trust blindly to him whose chief recommendation is, that he unsparingly abuses all medicine except his own panacea and all medical men except himself.

You must be prepared to find many examples of the fallacy I allude to, but you must never lose sight of the true principle; that he who most carefully and conscientiously studies a subject, must infallibly,



other things being equal, become the best qualified in regard to it, and that his fellow citizens will sooner or later find this out.

But the profession itself is not entirely innocent in this matter; carelessness or routine may bring the practice of medicine into disrepute, or the mistakes of one age may prepare the way for quackery in the next. Had it not been for the abuse of drugs during the last century, the doctrine of infinitesimal doses would have been impossible in the present. But even within the profession itself there is much quackery, and it is this which is most dangerous, because more insidious and more difficult to be guarded against. Traitors in the camp are more to be dreaded than foes in the open field. The worst enemies of legitimate medicine are often its professed friends.

From all such crooked paths let me most emphatically warn you. Let it be your object never to commit an action or to say a word you could afterwards be ashamed of. By never making professions which you do not conscientiously feel that you can fully carry out, by never seeking to advance your own interests at the expense of another's, you will preserve your own self-respect, and you are sure to merit and to obtain the approbation of others.

But, gentlemen, supposing that you have surmounted all the difficulties incident to the earlier part of your career, and have established yourselves in ample practice, your troubles are by no means at an end. The public can have no conception, and you yourselves but a faint one, of all the stern realities of a doctor's life. How few will give him credit for his quiet endurance, his anxious watchings, his baffled hopes, his untiring self-sacrifice? See him in the full tide of his professional career; what a life of anxious troubled unrest, what exorbitant exactions are made upon his resources, what unthinking demands upon his time and his vital energies? By day and by night, in sunshine and in storm, on work-day and on the day of rest, for rich and for poor, with or without recompense, he must ever obey the call of suffering humanity.

And again, he must be ever ready to encounter accidents, disease, and death, in all their most appalling forms; when friends are paralyzed with fear, when contagion carries panic to the stoutest hearts, he must be there calm and unmoved. Life may be ebbing fast through the bleeding artery or the shattered limb, the victim of cholera may present the most hideous features of death whilst yet writhing in vital agony, delirium or convulsions may compress the energies of a life in a few, brief, racking, fatal hours, and still he must be there, battling manfully and it may be impotently, with busy death.

But, it may be asked, what is it that induces you voluntarily to

undergo such difficulties and trials as I have attempted to describe? I reply. Your chief incentive must be an ardent love for your profession. If you have not this love you had better turn back at once, for assuredly without it you will never be a credit to yourselves nor to the profession whose name you bear. But the profession of medicine is one well qualified to enlist our warmest feelings. It consists of the constant and eager pursuit of truth, and the application of that truth to the relief of suffering and the promotion of human happiness. It embraces the most comprehensive study of nature and endeavours to utilize knowledge in every department of science.

It is this ardent love for his profession which explains much in the conduct of the practitioner of medicine that is incomprehensible to the public or that is misconstrued. Herein lies the secret of that singular characteristic of our profession—the eagerness to work for nothing. This is why we see young men contest with a vigour and often at a pecuniary cost equal to those expended for a seat in parliament, the privilege of working gratuitously in our hospitals and dispensaries. Governors and the general public are mostly unable to recognize any but the sordid motive of worldly advantage. They see the earnest applications, the voluminous circulars and testimonials, the active canvass from door to door, and they not unnaturally conclude that what is solicited at so great a cost of time, trouble, and even of personal dignity, must possess a commensurate pecuniary value. The simple fact is, that medicine and everything connected with it is progressive. It is progressive as an abstract branch of knowledge, and it is progressive as regards every individual who follows it as a profession. The medical man is always and above all a student. Deprive him of the means of observing disease and you render him miserable. Not because he is enamoured of disease, still less because the sight of human agony has any attraction; not because the employment is profitable in a pecuniary sense, but because he feels that without the opportunity of observation the knowledge he possesses will decay, the faculties which are strengthened by exercise will grow torpid, and the skill that is acquired by practice will be lost.

Actuated as you are, gentlemen, by love for your profession, you must pursue it with earnestness of purpose. What was it that inspired the courage and foreshadowed the successes of an Alexander, a Hannibal, a Cæsar, and a Napoleon? What embalmed the memories of Newton, of Milton, and of Herschell? What was it that enabled Arkwright and Watt and Stephenson to revolutionize the physical world? What was it in our own profession that has rendered the

names of Sydenham, and Harvey, and Hunter, and Jenner, "familiar in the mouth as household words"? It was,—take it as the most solemn truth which the history of these men proclaims,—that they possessed earnestness of purpose. To them life was no plaything, time was no bauble. So it should be with you, so with all, in every calling in life, who desire to achieve success. Earnestness of purpose will overcome defects of early education, it will compensate for the lack of genius, and it will give pledges of success which will prove the true harbingers of greatness.

And now, gentlemen, in conclusion, what is to reward you for your toils and struggles? Not wealth,—for in no other profession are large fortunes so rarely amassed. Not heraldic honours,—for no coronet has ever graced the brow of a physician. Had such been your ambition you should have plunged among the "glorious uncertainties of the law" to "perplex and dash maturest counsels," have marched amid the "pomp and circumstance of glorious war," or mixed in the noisy turmoil of party politics. No, gentlemen, your reward must be sought in the consciousness of having contributed to the welfare and happiness of your race, in the respect and esteem of your fellow-men, and in the knowledge that you are humbly following in the footsteps of the Great Physician who went about continually doing good.

Go, then, gentlemen, on your mission of mercy. Do battle honestly and manfully in the cause of humanity; and when at last—worn out or stricken down—you fall with the harness on; though for you may not resound the boom of cannon or the blast of trumpets, yet your memory shall not lack the more touching tribute of the grateful sigh and the silent tear.

The DEAN OF THE FACULTY OF LAW then announced the Honours and Prizes in that Faculty as follows:—

#### FACULTY OF LAW.

##### RANKING OF STUDENTS AS TO GENERAL PROFICIENCY.

###### 3rd Year.

WILLIAM E. BULLOCK, 1st Prize; CHARLES J. C. WURTELE, 2nd Prize: ERNEST SABOURIN, 3rd Prize.

###### 2nd Year.

ALFRED WELCH and HENRI LESIEUR DESAULNIERS, equal, 1st Prize; WILLIAM MCK. WRIGHT, 2nd Prize.

###### 1st Year.

F. E. GILMAN, 1st Prize; ELISHA STILES LYMAN, 2nd Prize.

#### STANDING IN THE SEVERAL CLASSES.

##### PROFESSOR CARTER'S CLASS.

###### 3rd Year.

WILLIAM E. BULLOCK and ERNEST SABOURIN, equal, 1st; GEORGE O. DOAK and CHARLES P. DAVIDSON, equal, 2nd.

###### 2nd Year.

ALFRED WELCH and H. L. DESAULNIERS, equal, 1st; W. MCK. WRIGHT, 2nd.

## 1st Year.

F. E. GILMAN, 1st; LEO. H. DAVIDSON and ARTHUR DANSEREAU, equal, 2nd.

## PROFESSOR LAFLAMME'S CLASS.

## 3rd Year.

W. E. BULLOCK and C. J. C. WURTELE, equal, 1st; ERNEST SABOURIN, 2nd; G. O. DOAK and E. T. DAY, equal, 3rd.

## 2nd Year.

WILLIAM MCK. WRIGHT, 1st; H. L. DESAULNIERS, 2nd; W. LAURIEB, 3rd.

## 1st Year.

F. E. GILMAN, 1st; E. H. RIXFORD, 2nd.

## PROFESSOR LAFRENYE'S CLASS.

## 3rd Year.

C. J. C. WURTELE, 1st; G. O. DOAK, 2nd.

## 2nd Year.

ALFRED WELCH, 1st; W. L. LAURIER, 2nd.

## 1st Year.

J. P. A. GAGNON, 1st; E. S. LYMAN, 2nd.

## PROFESSOR TORRANCE'S CLASS.

## 3rd Year.

W. E. BULLOCK, 1st; E. SABOURIN and C. WURTELE, equal, 2nd; C. P. DAVIDSON, 3rd.

## 2nd Year.

H. DESAULNIERS, 1st; A. WELCH, 2nd; J. BOYD, 3rd.

## 1st Year.

E. S. LYMAN, 1st; E. H. RIXFORD, and F. E. GILMAN, equal, 2nd.

The following Students were then presented for the Degree of B.C.L. :—

Isidore G. Ascher,  
John G. K. Houghton,  
Lewis N. Benjamin,  
Edmund T. Day,  
George O. Doak,  
Charles Peers Davidson, B.A.,  
Amedée L. W. Grenier,  
William A. Hall,  
George W. Stephens,  
Ernest Sabourin,  
Charles A. Vilbon,  
Charles J. C. Wurtele,  
William E. Bullock, B.A.,  
Alfred Charland,  
Federick Lefebvre,  
Louis George Loranger,  
William Mackay Wright, B.A.

The Degree was then duly conferred.

The Valedictory on behalf of the Graduates in Law was read by  
WILLIAM E. BULLOCK, B.A., B.C.L.



Professor CARTER then addressed the Graduates in Law in the following terms—

*Mr. President and Gentlemen Graduates:*

In the first of the celebrated lectures of Camus on the profession of an advocate, he tells the young advocate that the exercise of that profession leads rather to honor than to fortune; and yet, at the time he wrote, the French bar was in a high state of efficiency. To the student in Lower Canada the same observation can with propriety be made, for experience teaches us that the profession here does not open to the aspirant a pathway to fortune. It is not, however, a reason for regarding the profession of the law with less favor, that affluence should be beyond the reach of many of its zealous followers. There is a prize to be gained of greater value than the mere possession of wealth; for rank, honor, and preferment, will be the reward of those who, coveting the respect at all times accorded to persons of high literary attainments, devote their energies to acquiring a profound knowledge of the science of law in all its branches.

All of you are no doubt actuated by a desire to follow the profession of the law as you would any science, and to thoroughly master the principles upon which it is founded. Your ambition would naturally lead you beyond attaining mere mediocrity, or to make use of your profession as a means only to provide for the ordinary wants of life. What you may have learnt in an office, or by following the Courts of law, might suffice for that purpose. But knowledge thus acquired is but very superficial, and would leave the practitioner in the humiliating position, of not understanding the true principles of law, so necessary to be theoretically learnt to be successfully put in practice.

It is not unusual to witness great discouragement amongst the young students, in their first efforts to devote themselves to the study of the law—a study which will always be subject to the reproach of being a very dry and uninviting one, so long as the mind is not aided by proper training and assistance to form an accurate conception of its importance, and how great is the part law occupies in the world—having its origin in those immutable laws which the Supreme power has laid down for our guidance, and regulating upon principles of justice the conduct of Sovereigns and Governments, as well as of men in their relations with each other.

To render that study the more easy and complete—to direct the student in the course he should follow, and to prepare him to form an accurate idea of the profession to which he aspires, the Law Faculty of this University is intended to afford the surest means of accomplish-

ing so desirable an object. To each Professor are assigned different branches of the law, to form the subject matter of his lectures to the students. These lectures serve to develop the study of jurisprudence, by showing what is law, what are its constitutive elements, its fundamental principles; what is the place it occupies in the sphere of human knowledge, through what bonds it is connected with other sciences; how it originates historically, and how it develops itself scientifically. They show that the law forms a homogeneous whole, of which all parts are in a close and logical connection with each other. They point out the divers branches of the law, starting from a common trunk; they mark how they divide and subdivide themselves again and again; at what period they first have been cultivated; in what direction and by whom. They, moreover, give short historical and bibliographical glimpses of the law, enumerating the principal works of both legislators and jurists, and point out the aid which jurisprudence borrows from accessorial sciences. They also are intended to give the student some preliminary ideas on the manner in which he will have to realize in life and practice the abstract notions he learns theoretically.

The importance of thus preparing the student in the outset of his career of professional studies led to the adoption in France, in the year 1840, of the plan proposed by the great minister and philosopher, Cousin, of establishing an introductory course to the study of the law; and this course has ever since been at the head of the obligatory courses.

Whatever assistance, however, you may have derived from attending the course of lectures at this University, you must not imagine that your studies and researches end there. The science of law is so comprehensive and extends over so wide a field that it is impossible even for the most zealous student to feel that he has not a great deal more to learn—that the more he drinks of the water of this inexhaustible well, the greater will be his thirst after knowledge. In any effort you may make to acquire distinction in the profession to which you all aspire, you must be well aware that success will mainly depend upon your individual exertions; and success to be complete can only be accomplished by devoting your energies to the study of the science as a whole, and not confining yourselves to one or two branches of it in particular. No greater error can be made than to imagine that some parts only of jurisprudence can be studied exclusively of the other. One writer has appropriately remarked that to keep one's self in a corner of a science, and not to become acquainted with its whole domain, under the pretext that there are certain parts which one will

never use in the practice, is like a man who, in geography, would confine himself to the study of his country for the reason that he does not intend to go abroad. Another writer has with equal propriety and with greater force observed:—"In future lawyers must fit themselves not merely to earn their bread by the practice of the law in the particular branch which they especially follow, but they must apply themselves to the general study of the law in all its branches with a more comprehensive spirit, and thereby not only enlarge their professional sphere of knowledge, but also qualify themselves to perform the duties of legal statesmen in Parliament and in the general business of the country. For this purpose they must extend their learning so as to embrace the whole range of the legal science; and such is the wonderful harmony of universal jurisprudence, and the connection of all its parts, that they will find even their special cultivation of certain branches of law facilitated by the study of the science as a whole."

In future researches you may have occasion to make, you will certainly not regret the ground-work which has been laid by the instruction imparted to you with reference to the Roman law, and its influence on our jurisprudence. It has been said that the Roman law is not only the law of a nation which has ruled the world for a thousand years, not only the law from which all nations have largely borrowed, but is attractive in itself and of a real practical value. It has been said also that no historical and moral science ever approached more nearly to mathematical precision than the Roman law—that no law was in its method superior to it, and that its art of applying principles to cases was unsurpassed.

The author of the *Historical Essay on the Laws of Rome*, published in 1827, says:—"The jurisprudence of Rome has formed the ground-work of the jurisprudence which to-day governs almost every nation of Europe. England is, perhaps, less indebted to it than any of the continental nations; but even the English law owes it many and deep obligations, and the neglect it has fallen into in this country must be imputed to motives very different from its want of connection with our system of jurisprudence."

Mr. Kent, in the 2nd vol. of his *Commentaries*, states that the objection of the English Barons to its introduction in certain special matters, to which he refers, arose not from any objection to its principles, but from an anxiety to maintain the superiority of their common law.

Whatever prejudices in this respect may have existed in England, it is certain they prevailed elsewhere, for we find the following anecdote recorded:—In a remote and mountainous little Canton of Switzerland,

where people idolized their common law, certainly as ancient as any in the world, a lawyer, just returned from the University, had the misfortune to quote in Court the Roman law. No sooner was this done than the magistrate presiding rebuked him with a thundering and fulminating voice, and ordered him to leave on the spot, bar and house, and never to return until he had recovered his senses.

The love people have for their own law is very marked. Every man extols it with natural partiality, for the love of one's country and its laws are inseparable. This partiality is often exhibited in our own Courts, as it not unfrequently happens that the advocate is interrupted by the Court if he attempts to quote American decisions or from American authors. This prejudice, however, does not seem to prevail to the same extent in England, for Lord Campbell expressed himself in the case of *Reg vs. Millis* as follows:—"I cannot refrain from asking your Lordships to consider how the subject has been viewed by our brethren in the United States of America. They carried the common law of England along with them, and jurisprudence in the department of human knowledge to which, as pointed out by Burke, they have chiefly devoted themselves, and in which they have chiefly excelled." Some of the States of the Union have not been free from this imputation of partiality; and although the common law of England formed an essential portion of their jurisprudence, the Legislature of Pennsylvania, fearful of foreign influence, passed a statute prohibiting the citation in the tribunals of that State, of English cases, bearing a date later than July 4, 1776.

To return, however, to our jurisprudence in Lower Canada. We may with just pride boast of its excellence, and venture even so far as to assert that the system which here prevails is not to be surpassed by that of any other country. We have in all civil matters the French law as introduced into it, combining the equity jurisdiction with the administration of law in a manner best calculated to mete out justice. Contrasted with the system which prevails in England we are the more convinced of its superiority in that branch of legal science when we look back to the early history of English jurisprudence. The Courts of law in the days of Lord Coke opposed the jurisprudence of equity as an innovation, but the narrow way in which the judges had construed the Statute of Westminster the second, 13 Edward I, ch. 24, and the insufficiency of the remedies given by the Court of common law, rendered equity a necessary complement of the national jurisprudence. This new branch of English law therefore became the subject of great numbers of statutes made for the very purpose to which Savig-

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ny refers, *i. e.*, to define, modify and settle the system and its administration which the legislature had not created,—to remove or solve difficulties, and to construct machinery. Still we all know that whatever improvements upon the past the Imperial Legislature may have introduced, the machinery provided for the exercise of equity jurisprudence has led to its being regarded as so tardy and expensive as to amount in many cases to a denial of justice.

But we borrow from the English system that which is not to be excelled by any other. We have the English rules of evidence in proof of commercial facts, and that admirable body of criminal law, so justly regarded as the most humane—the most merciful to the accused—and at the same time the best adapted for the suppression of crimes and the punishment of offenders.

No system of jurisprudence can be considered perfect to the extent of excluding all doubt and uncertainty, and hence we hear so frequently of the glorious uncertainty of the law; but it requires little consideration to be convinced of this, that in so far as those immutable laws which prescribe our duty to God and to our neighbour, form a part and the basis of our jurisprudence, no doubt or uncertainty can emanate from that source, for as Domat justly observed:—"The immutable laws are so called because they are natural and so just at all times and in all places that no authority can either change or abolish them." This uncertainty can only emanate from arbitrary laws and their application. Hasty legislation will give rise to many doubts and create uncertainty in the administration of justice. But even in the most careful preparation of laws it has been found impossible to attain perfection, and it has been observed by many learned writers that laws cannot, by the utmost skill of human legislation, be so constructed as to exclude all doubts as to their application.

In conclusion allow me to remind you that you are about to enter upon the practice of a profession, which probably more than any other affords the greatest opportunities for the accomplishment of good, or the perpetration of evil. It is a profession wherein opportunities are not wanting for the exercise of those noble promptings of the heart which distinguish the Christian man from the worldly-minded. I mean charity; for there is no manner in which charity can be more effectually bestowed, or be more highly appreciated, than when you gratuitously devote your energies and skill in defending the poor and oppressed, against the wrong doings of the powerful oppressor.

Remember also that you have it in your power, by a zealous application to the study of the law, to do much towards relieving the pro-

fession from aspersions too often cast upon it. A thorough knowledge of the law as a science and of the duties it imposes upon the practitioner will enable you to avoid those errors which in practice are the fruitful source of ruinous and ineffectual litigation, and tend to lower the standard of the profession. That knowledge will also enable you in another sphere, that of a member of the legislature, to introduce such measures of reform as will best secure certainty and harmony in the administration of justice. That knowledge will avail you still more in a higher sphere—that of a Judge—which some of you may attain. In proportion as you then would feel the extent of the responsibility of your judicial functions in administering the law, will you value the more highly the efforts you may have made in acquiring a comprehensive view of the science of law in all its branches, and which will enable you to discharge with comparative ease the duties of your high office. Wealth will then be as nothing compared with the satisfaction you will derive, and which should be the highest object of every man's ambition to secure, the conviction that whatever you may do, will be done, consistently with the high trust reposed in you.

The PRINCIPAL then addressed the Convocation as follows:—

*Mr. Chairman :*

In closing this meeting of Convocation, we terminate the most successful session of this University up to this time,—a session distinguished by the attendance of 300 students, and by the sending forth of 63 graduates in Law, Medicine, and Arts. In the ten years which have elapsed since the revival of the University under its new charter, the number of students has gradually increased from 96 to 300; and there is no reason to suppose that it has yet reached its maximum. It is proper to observe also, that in this number I do not include students of affiliated colleges or schools, or otherwise non-resident, or persons attending occasional lectures, or persons preparing for matriculation; but actual students only.

In the coming session, our Calendar, now in process of revision by the several Faculties, will, I trust, show that the established character of the University will be fully sustained, and that additional advantages will be afforded to the student. I may mention as matter of interest to more than one Faculty, that our course of Practical Chemistry under Dr. Hunt will be open in September; that our Observatory under Dr. Smallwood will be in full operation before that time; that our arrangements for professional students taking degrees in Arts are being revised and improved; and that I have some hope

that friends of the University will contribute prizes for collections by our students in Canadian Natural History. I wish that some of our friends would authorise us to add that Bursaries in aid of deserving students would be offered to a larger extent than heretofore, more especially with the view of enabling young men entering the Medical and Legal professions to take previously the degree in Arts. I beg leave, in conclusion, to ask our graduates and others interested in the promotion of a liberal education, to aid us heartily in the advancement of this University, in giving to it a still wider influence and a more provincial character, and in directing attention to the important benefits of such a course of training as we here offer to the young men of Canada.

After which the proceedings were closed by the Benediction pronounced by the Rev. Professor CORNISH.

