



PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

ANNUAL CONVOCATION

OF THE

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

MONTREAL,

Held on Tuesday, the 3rd, and Wednesday, the 4th of May, 1864.



MONTREAL:

PRINTED BY M. LONGMOORE & CO., GAZETTE STEAM PRESS.

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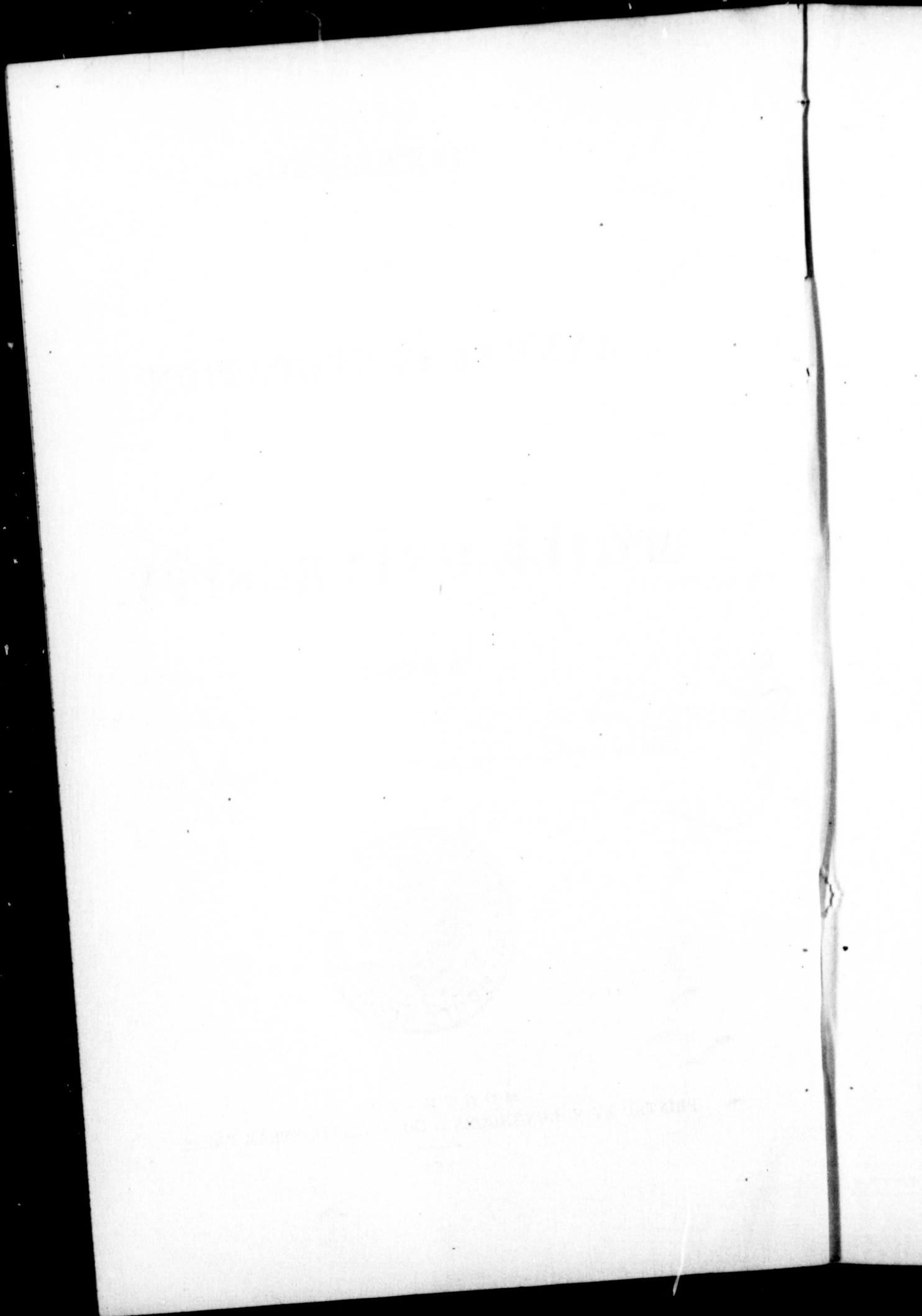
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## FIRST DAY.

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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, A. ROBERTSON, M. A., a Member of the Board of Governors, took the Chair.

The following Members of Convocation were present:—

W. Molson, Esq., Governor ;  
J. W. Dawson, LL.D., F.R.S., Principal ;  
Rev. Canon Leach, D.C.L., Vice-Principal ;  
B. Chamberlin, M.A., Fellow ;  
Professor Campbell, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine ;  
Professor Scott ;  
Rev. A. De Sola, LL.D., Professor of Hebrew and Oriental Literature ;  
Professor Markgraf ;  
Professor Smallwood ;  
Alexander Johnson, LL.D., Professor of Mathematics and Natural  
Philosophy ;  
Rev. George Cornish, B.A., Professor of Classical Literature ;  
Pierre J. Darey, M.A., Professor of French Language and Literature ;  
Professor Hatch, of Morrin College ;  
Wm. C. Baynes, B.A., Secretary and Registrar of the University ;  
E. H. Trenholme, M. D. ;  
R. A. Leach, B. C. L. ;  
D. S. Leach, B. C. L. ;  
J. R. Dougall, B. A. ;  
J. Greene, B. A. ;  
J. Boyd, B. A. ;  
C. S. DeWitt, B. A. ;  
R. A. Ramsay, B. A. ;  
Sampson P. Robins, B. A. ;  
C. P. Davidson, B. A. ;  
D. R. McCord, B. A. ;  
L. Cushing B. A. ;  
L. H. Davidson, B. A.,  
and others.

The meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. Vice-Principal  
LEACH.

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;

THOMAS W. 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 results of the University Examinations, and the awards of Honours and Prizes, as follows:—

PASSED FOR THE DEGREE OF B. A.

*\*In Honours.*

ALVAN F. SHERRILL, of Eaton;  
ARCHIBALD DUFF, of Cowansville;  
JAMES MCGREGOR, of Montreal;  
JOHN A. BOTHWELL, of Durham;  
GEORGE H. PEASE, of Coteau Landing.

*Ordinary.*

JOHN N. MUIR, of South Georgetown;  
FRANCIS W. HICKS, of Montreal;  
LONSDALE GREEN, of Montreal;  
DONALD BAYNES, of Montreal.

GRADUATE IN CIVIL ENGINEERING.

GULIAN PICKERING, Rixford.

PASSED THE INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION.

CLASS I.

*McGill College.*—Meredith B. Bethune, A. Ramsay MacDuff.  
*Morrin College.*—James G. Colsten, Robert Cassels.

CLASS II.

*McGill College.*—Colin Campbell Stewart, Jacob DeWitt Anderson, Arthur Adderly Browne, Clarence Chipman, William John Watts, Lewis Alexander Hart, James Perrigo.

*Morrin College.*—Henry C. Scott, William Cook, John W. Cook, Theophilus H. Oliver, Ivan T. Wotherspoon, Henry Macnab Stuart, Thomas J. Oliver, Neil W. McLean, William Clint.

CLASS III.

*McGill College.*—Silas Everett Tabb, Hugh McLeod, James Smith, William Henry Beckett, John Morrison.

HONOURS, PRIZES AND STANDING.

*Graduating Class.*

*Mathematics and Natural Philosophy.*—DUFF, ARCHIBALD, First Rank Honours, "Anne Molson" Gold Medal.

*Classics.*—PEASE, GEORGE H., First Rank Honours, "Prince of Wales" Gold Medal; MCGREGOR, JAMES, First Rank Honours.

*Natural Science.*—BOTHWELL, JOHN A., First Rank Honours, "Logan" Gold Medal; SHERRILL, ALVAN F., First Rank Honours and highest general standing, "Chapman" Gold Medal.

*Sessional Examinations.*—BOTHWELL, JOHN A., Prize in Mental and Moral Philosophy,—Prize Essay; MUIR, J. N., Prize in German.

*Third Year.*

*Passed.*—BANCROFT, CHARLES; FOWLER, WILLIAM; BREWSTER, WILLIAM; GIBB, CHARLES; MCOUAT, WALTER; MORRISON, JAMES.

*Honours and Prizes.*—BANCROFT, CHARLES, First Rank General Honours, Prize in Natural Science; FOWLER, WILLIAM, First Rank General Honours; BREWSTER, WILLIAM, First Rank General Honours, Prize in Classics, Prize in French; MCOUAT, WALTER, First Rank General Honours, Second Rank Honours in Mathematics, Prize in Mathematics, Prize in Rhetoric; MORRISON, JAMES, Second Rank General Honours.

*Second Year.*

*Honours and Prizes.*—BETHUNE, MEREDITH N., First Rank General Honours, Prize in Logic, Prize in Botany; MACDUFF, A. RAMSAY, First Rank General Honours, Prize in English Literature, Prize in Botany; STEWART, COLIN CAMPBELL, First Rank General Honours, Second Rank Honours in Logic, Prize in Hebrew; ANDERSON, JACOB DEWITT, Second Rank General Honours, First Prize in German; BROWNE, ARTHUR ADDERLEY, Second Rank General Honours; CHIPMAN, CLARENCE, Second Prize in German.

*First Year*

*Passed.*—YULE, WILLIAM ANDREW; HALLIDAY, CALEB STRONG; BROWN, CHARLES E.; FRASER, GEORGE BANE; FOSTER, CHARLES WORCESTER; MACDOUGALL, WILLIAM.

*Honours and Prizes.*—YULE, WILLIAM ANDREW, First Rank General Honours, Prize in Classics and History, Prize in English Literature, Prize in Chemistry; HALLIDAY, CALEB STRONG, First Rank General Honours, Prize in Classics and History; FRASER, GEORGE BANE, Second Rank General Honours; BROWN, CHARLES E., Second Rank General Honours, First Rank Honours in Mathematics, Prize in Mathematics.

The Degree of B. A. was then conferred on the Graduating Class; after which the Valedictory was read by Mr. MCGREGOR, as follows:

"On behalf of the Students who have this day completed their Academic Course, it is my duty to make public acknowledgment of our deep indebtedness to this University; to its good and wise founder; to its many benefactors; to those gentlemen, under whose direction we have been enabled successfully to complete our Course; and, above all, to God, without whose blessing all other aids would have been in vain.

"In their name, I have to bid good-by to the old walls that will know us as students no more; to our fellow-students who have yet some years of college life before them,—and to our professors, on whose roll-books our names have no longer a place.

"We have reached what was wont to appear the summit of the

mountain we had set out to climb, but we now find that it is but a terrace to loftier and more rugged peaks. Toil-worn and weary, we regard with terror the hoary masses; we cannot climb them all; can we master any of them! We almost despair. Yet why? Others have halted here, and then pressed far up the rough sides of these towering rocks. What men have dared and done cannot we accomplish? Nay, but, availing ourselves of their labours, why may not we climb to greater heights than they ever attained? With God's help we shall try.

"We have now only to gird up our loins and to press forward with renewed energy, in spite of every opposition to our upward progress. We have more than this to do. We are bound by a thousand considerations, of interest, gratitude, and duty, to leave the world the better for our having been in it,—to have something more inscribed on our tombs than the dates of our birth and death.

"Interest requires it,—for we shall ourselves most certainly be wiser, better, and happier, if cheered by the consciousness that we are labouring to increase the wisdom, goodness, and happiness of others.

"Gratitude demands it,—for gratitude to those, who have given so freely of their wealth for the establishment and sustenance of this our University, binds us to carry out, as far as may be in our power, their intentions, which were, not that we and our fellow-graduates should alone be benefited, but that, through us, the whole community should be partakers, more or less directly, of the advantages that accompany and flow from a liberal education.

"Duty, too, calls us to a life of laborious usefulness; that duty into which all duties whatsoever merge; that source and spring of all human duties—our duty to God. He Himself has laid down the conditions: "To whom much is given, of him shall much be required,"—"Freely ye have received, freely give." Let us remember that every privilege has its accompanying duty. We divorce them at our peril. We have especial need to keep this in mind in these days, when we hear so much about "rights" and "privileges". It is well to stand up manfully for our own rights; it is better to do battle for the rights of others; but it is best of all to wage constant war with every temptation to neglect duty. Were we but as anxious to see that all our duties were performed, as we now are to guard against any infringement of our rights, we should be spared many mortifications and annoyances that harass and cramp both mind and soul, and we should more nearly attain to the perfect form and stature of men.



“Since, then, interest, gratitude, and duty, all bind us to useful and honourable exertion, I know that I speak for the Class, when I say that we accept the obligation; and that to-day we stand pledged before this University to act in accordance with it, up to the full measure of our abilities and opportunities.

“To our Professors we owe our most heartfelt thanks. Of their abundant learning they have bestowed freely on us. Through our intercourse with them we have learned that great intellectual attainments are not inconsistent with high moral excellence. By their learning, they caused us to respect them; by their zeal in the classroom, they gained our esteem; but by their unwearying, unwavering kindness to us, they have won our love. We desire to bear our united and public testimony to their worth. If we fail to realize the anticipations they may have formed of the future of some of us, the fault will be ours, not theirs. While we live, we must remember gratefully and affectionately the years we have spent with them as students, and we shall be happy indeed if we find our names enrolled in their lists of friends in the years to come. We have now to bid them adieu. May they live long,—long to preside over the altars that have been erected to the graver muses in McGill College and University.

“To the Under-Graduates we must now vacate our old places; may they be more worthily filled. Some of you, gentlemen, have still a long term to remain, looked at from your point of view; we know how short it is,—so short that there is no time to be found in it to make good the loss of time squandered, or work neglected during the earlier years. Quite sufficient for the year is the evil thereof. We bid you good-by. May your remaining years be passed with satisfaction to yourselves, and with credit to our loved McGill.

“And now, my dear friends, we who have so long toiled on side by side,—who have often shared each other’s joys and sorrows,—who have had so much pleasant and profitable intercourse with each other,—who have, shoulder to shoulder, charged the heavy batteries of Mathematics,—faced the terrible musketry of the terminology of the Natural Sciences,—plunged through the thickets and morasses of Metaphysics,—routed the tribes of the Gauls and Germans,—and stormed the outposts of the wily Greek and warlike Roman, though defended by a numerous army of editors, scholiasts, and commentators—shall we agree to part and know each other no more? Surely this were the desire of but a cold and callous heart. Are we not all to



remain in the same service? Do not we all expect to receive commissions in that noble army that is warring against human ills, moral, mental, and physical,—social or political? We may be in different arms of the service, but we shall still fight under the same old flag. Why then should not our love for each other last? Other and stronger loves will, I hope, come to you all; but a greater love does not annihilate a less,—it cherishes it. God grant, my dear friends, that we may be so filled with the highest and holiest love that all our human loves may but burn more brightly and more constantly, and that we may cease to love, only when we cease to live.

“If it is generally becoming, on an occasion of this kind, for the students to acknowledge the kindness and courtesy of those ladies and gentlemen who honour them, and grace the meeting by their presence; it is much more incumbent on *us* to do so, who are honoured by the presence of many of those, through whose munificence we have been enabled to prosecute our studies to greater advantage, and of those too who have recently added so largely to those ornaments of the University that the students can especially appreciate. You have just heard of the liberal gifts of Mrs. Anne Molson, of Sir William Logan, and of the founders of the Shakespere Medal, but we cannot refrain from naming them here to do them honour.

“When our visitors are such as these, how can we sufficiently express our thanks for the kind interest which they manifest now, and at every opportunity, in the prosperity and encouragement of the student. Let us hope that their persistent liberality will be met by an equally persistent determination on the part of the students of McGill to prove themselves neither incompetent to contend for these honours, nor unworthy to wear them when won.”

The Dean of the Faculty of Arts then presented the following gentlemen for the Degree of M. A. :—

Joseph Green, B. A.,  
John Boyd, B. A.,  
Caleb J. DeWitt, B. A.

The Reverend Professor DE SÒLA, LL.D., then addressed the Graduates as follows :—

“*Gentlemen, Graduates in Arts :*

“The Academic distinctions and honors which have just been bestowed upon you, constitute a fitting and happy termination of your connexion with this University in the capacity of students.

For these distinctions you have long, well and earnestly labored. And while I tender to you the warm congratulations of your Professors—may I not say of the assembled University?—on this gratifying termination of the past, I would ask you to afford me a brief and patient hearing, while I proceed to say a few words as to your future. I would ask you, further, to accept the words of advice and admonition I shall offer you on behalf of the Faculty, as best proof of the complete satisfaction with which they have viewed your proficiency, industry and general good conduct,—as best proof that these have begotten in them sentiments of esteem for you, and a warm interest which will not cease with the relations they have hitherto borne to you, but will follow you from these walls to and through every stage of your future careers.

“ And now that you are about taking the first steps in your respective careers, it becomes my duty to forewarn you, that the Divine Creator has subjected everything in the physical, intellectual and moral worlds, to the dominion of immutable, unerring laws; and in proportion as you are acquainted with these laws, and conform to them, will you be virtuous, prosperous and happy. Endowed, as you are, with conscience and will, this universal prevalence of law invests you with duties and responsibilities infinitely great and important to yourselves and society. One of the first of these duties to which I would now direct your attention is that which refers to the preservation of your bodily health. The progress of civilization seems to have directed its efforts, almost wholly, to the education of man’s intellectual capacity, while it has raised countless impediments to the development of his physical powers. Now, this is repeating that sad and fatal mistake against which the sages of antiquity loudly and constantly raised their voice. The literature of the Hebrews contains a mine, almost unexplored though it be, of unspeakably valuable constitutions on the subject of physical training,—and what the Greeks and Romans have said and done in this regard, I need not tell you. You know it, and you know that it was the neglect of physical training and of athletic exercises among the two last mentioned nations, and the spread among them of luxury and effeminacy, with their thousand attendant evils, that swept them out of existence. I will suppose, however, that you are thoroughly impressed with the importance of corporal health,—that you fully perceive its indispensableness to the proper exercise of the mental faculties,—that you well know genius, however brilliant, cannot long dwell in a sickly frame,—that bodily vigour is not less essential to success in

the learned professions than in the paths of commerce and other yet more laborious fields of human industry and occupation. I will further suppose you to be fully aware that, by proper physical training, weakly organized forms have been strengthened, and an extraordinary degree of muscular activity attained,—that not only has such a training developed muscle, but has even altered and improved solid bone, while it has completely removed many painful nervous affections. Let me, however, remind you, and at the same time all our alumni present, that it will little avail you to know the theory, if you neglect the practice. The necessity for cultivating the physical powers has been recognized by this University in the establishment of a Gymnasium; but I am sorry to think that students do not seem sufficiently to recognize the importance of physical training, since it is not so commonly and frequently visited as it should be. But let me ask that its exercises be not disdained, as occupation only fitting for idle juniors,—and let it be remembered that busy Cæsar, grave Cicero, and other heroes and sages of antiquity, thought it of the first moment to cultivate such exercises. And although I may not expect that the instructing and other officers of this University may themselves frequently engage in throwing the discus and other feats of the ancient *athletæ*, yet may I express the hope that such exercises may not only constitute an essential part of the regular duties of the student, but that præeminence in them may be deemed worthy of reward, as in other graver departments. I have enlarged somewhat on this topic; but when the press of a neighbouring people is so loudly raising the cry of physical deterioration, and propounds, instead of a proper system of physical training, schemes which are either ludicrous or revolting, the remarks just made may be deemed neither unseasonable nor superfluous.

“ You will readily infer, gentlemen, from what I have just said, that I desire your physical training should be made subservient to, and as a means for, your mental improvement. A valuable writer of the last century quaintly remarks: ‘ While the man of body takes the greatest care to set out and adorn the part for which he thinks himself the most valuable, the man of mind will bestow most pains in improving that mind.’ To this let me add, that the law for improving the mind and maintaining it in its healthy state is, just as with our physical being, to exercise constantly and successively every one of its faculties. Now, I cannot suppose that you see no further use for these exercises; or, in other words, that henceforth you regard your education as



complete. Gentlemen, you have only gathered a few of its materials, and acquired merely the elements of that discipline which is indispensable to the improvement of your progressive nature. If you are to be known for enlarged views, sound thinking, and just principles, you must determine ever to regard yourselves as mere students; ever to remember that your college training has been merely introductory to the course of study requisite to fit you for permanent usefulness, and that manhood, like youth, has its appropriate course of study which it cannot afford to slight or set aside, under penalty of inferiority or humiliation. Whatever tends, then, to withdraw you from the advanced studies you undertake, should be avoided as evil and injurious. So should you regard those greatest enemies of mental and moral progress—bad books and bad associates. While you remained under the safe guidance of the College, while your time was mainly occupied with the healthy exercises it imposed, there was not any great danger of your tasting other than that proper nourishment, as much required by the mind as by the body to secure healthy development.—“*Animi cultus quasi quidam humanitatis cibus.*” But now that you go forth finally from these halls, you become more exposed to the pestilential influence of such writings as tend, by their dangerous and seducing sentiments, by the fascination of their style, to weaken your character; to relax the firmness of your moral nature; to taint, if not thoroughly corrupt, your heart; to engender low and debasing tastes and appetites; and to make the laws of nature and virtue appear but as light things in your eyes. These I exhort you to avoid; to touch not, however slightly; for as poison is to the body so are these to the mind. Avoid them for the healthy and the good. It does not matter, says Seneca, how many, but how good books you have. When, therefore, you meet with a good book, treat it as you would a good friend; let it be your frequent companion. Cecil did so, and devoted a shelf for what he called his tried books. This shelf should be the best sought in your library. Faithfully read, they will afford you more satisfaction and profit than were you to skim over thousands of volumes, perused hurriedly and unreflectingly. The poet's well-known recommendation, to “drink deep or taste not the Pierian spring,” assumes perhaps increased significance in our day, the great passion of which seems to be to acquire knowledge without labor. Self-deceiving, men will be unmindful that uncompromising effort and patient toil are inseparable conditions of all excellence, and that this first law of our constitution is irresistible. Eschew, then, that mere glanc-

ing at periodicals and superficial reading of popular works, that never yet fastened the bays and laurels around the student's brow. Follow the contrary course, and seek wisdom for herself alone. The pleasures she bestows never terminate in a sigh; and though she be usually grave, yet does she not always exclude the sportiveness of wit, though she may condemn its unbridled license and malignity. You will also require her as a lamp for your guidance in other directions. The literature of the present day exhibits, perhaps more than ever before, a tendency to question opinions however established by the lapse of ages; to overturn every thing, no matter how sacred it be deemed, that cannot be immediately squared with the views of hasty objectors. Now if stagnation be opposed, as it undoubtedly is, to that universal law which secures both mental and physical development, its reverse quality, activity, must, evidently, be good and proper. Yet, when you see this activity perverted into wrong channels, and elevated ignorance and presumption run-a-muck at those great fundamental truths which the whole civilized world avouches, it were well to reflect whether by the hasty and inconsiderate removal of the old land marks, there is not danger of falling into an abyss of utter confusion and darkness. At the same time, it were well to bethink you that each and all of you have fitting and legitimate guides to open your eyes to the danger, and to warn you from it. And you will evince at once the goodness of your heart and the wisdom of your head by ever exhibiting that respect for the teachers of religion, of whatsoever name they be, which their sacred vocation demands.

“That thoroughness of study and acquirement to which I have just referred as opposed to superficiality, would imply that to excel, it were necessary for you to select as your vocation one department of human learning or industry, and devote yourselves almost exclusively thereto. And it is even so. At a public meeting held in behalf of this University, a reverend speaker\* said ‘he believed in some sectional love;—not in bigotry and prejudice that put down everything not one's own, and could see no beauty outside one's own door, but in a hearty identification of ourselves with our home.’ I would apply these enlightened words to the special department to which you may devote yourselves. Do not become so infatuated with it that you can see no beauty, no good outside of it, or you may now and again be as guilty of injustice as Alcibiades, who, it is said, boxed the ears of an unfortunate rhetorician because he did not possess the works of Homer. And let this

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\* The Rev. Dr. Wilkes.



toleration widen out and extend to a more sacred domain; and do you respect every man's religious convictions, while you enjoy your own. Be satisfied that no one will intentionally impose on himself in matters appertaining to his salvation; and freely accord to all, the rights and immunities of thought in this regard, you would desire for yourselves. Carry forth with you, gentlemen, the noble lesson taught by your Alma Mater, who receives into her fostering bosom every race, nationality and creed. And be assured that if this example were more generally followed abroad, and if men would as assiduously seek points of agreement as they seek points of difference, much of the acrimony, uncharitableness and ill-will that now array God's children against each other, would soon disappear, and prepare this earth for that universal diffusion of brotherhood, peace and happiness, so earnestly desired by the wise and the good.

"Besides the improvement of your mental powers, another result of thoroughness of acquirement is a refined taste:

'Say what is taste, but the internal powers,  
Active and strong, and feelingly alive,  
To each fine impulse? a discerning sense  
Of decent and sublime, with quick disgust  
From things deform'd.'

Now, although, as the poet teaches, a natural sensibility is essential to taste, still may it become improved by due cultivation of the perceptive powers, by comparison and experience. And I would bid you not to overlook its influence. For from the dress of our persons, the furniture of our dwellings, up to our sculpture, poetry, eloquence, music and all the arts which embellish life, its dominion is felt. It has also its laws of progress; and if, as we are told, the polished contemporaries of Horace blushed at the praises which their ancestors had bestowed on the dialogues of Plautus—to them so rude when compared with the elegant comedies of Terence, it should be evidently your ambition to assist in raising such a standard, that those who come after you may regard it with admiration and respect.

"Closely connected with the cultivation of taste is a proper regard to what are popularly recognised as the accomplishments of life. To these a due degree of attention must needs be paid. Without suffering them to supersede sterner and more useful duties, those points that are essential to the demeanor of a gentleman, should not be overlooked. I allude, of course, to no mere affectation, but to that politeness which is the genuine result of goodness of heart and rectitude of mind. Without these latter, an elegant exterior and highly cultivated mental

powers will be indeed but vain, and will certainly not at all elevate you above the frivolous and vicious whose companionship I have already referred to, as calculated to pollute the whole current of your moral life at its source, by instilling a disregard for all authority, whether of man or of God. One main antidote to the deleterious effects of such companionship, is self respect. This, however, you are to distinguish from that overweening self-love which, as it has been justly said, can swallow any absurdity, however gross, when long pampered. Hollow assumption will only excite the contempt of the discerning; but a proper self-respect will generally secure to you the respect of others. Another such antidote is the love of fame. When Cæsar said he was satisfied with his share of life and fame, his sincerity was doubted; but not so the truthfulness of Alexander, when he exclaimed, 'Oh, Athenians, how much do I suffer to be praised by you.' But the most lowly, as well as an Alexander and a Cæsar, have not been exempt from the desire of admiration; and hence, it has been styled the universal passion. So long as you keep the vehemence of this passion within bounds, it is doubtless of proper salutary tendency. You will only constitute it a folly when you are more solicitous about the approbation of fallible man than that of the unerring judge of your own conscience. To listen to the high promptings of this conscience amidst all temptations, to hold fast to your integrity, and to determine that your heart shall not reproach you so long as you live, is to adopt for yourselves principles of honor the highest, as they are the most comprehensive. They will prove, if steadily adhered to, your safest guide in the slippery walks of life. They will enable you to realize the truth which Plato taught, that it is equally the office of virtuous constancy to withstand the attacks of pain and the blandishments of pleasure. They will save you from temptations and discouragements which might otherwise overwhelm you; and will convert the howling desert of misfortune into a blooming paradise of joy.

"But, gentlemen, I am warned by the lapse of time that I should bring these remarks to a close. And yet I would detain you for a brief space, while I once more, and for the last time, earnestly and solemnly warn you ever to bear in mind the important truth, that, as intelligent beings, you have been placed under a constitution of law which, as it has been devised by infinite wisdom, you cannot violate without detriment to your happiness both here and hereafter. Remember also that the infelicities of life are mainly in consequence of ignoring or violating these laws, and are to be regarded only as proofs

of the infinite goodness of your Heavenly Father, who thus admonishes you to walk in the paths of obedience, and to develop and foster the mental and moral welfare of your being. Accordingly as you do this, will you advance, and cause others to advance; accordingly as you neglect this, will you retrograde and carry back others with you, adding to the multitude of woes ever found in the train of ignorance. Thus, then, must you influence even future generations; yes, even upon them must you leave your impress, whether for weal or for woe. And if you supply them with better means of educating themselves than you yourselves could find, you will have done an important work—a noble work, and you will not have lived in vain. And in this Province, especially, is this work required of you; for here we are but taking the first steps in the naturalization of science and educational improvement among us, and it becomes us to see that these steps are properly and wisely taken, so that we may fall in among the foremost and the best,—in the van, and not in the rear. Of the Spartans it is recorded that when their young men walked the streets their eyes were ever modestly lowered, and that one might as well anticipate the eye of a marble statue to be turned as theirs; but that in battle no one dared to look on them. Country was the all dominating idea with them, as it should be with you. So must you do battle for the intellectual and moral advancement of your country. To you let the words with all truth and appropriateness be applied—*‘Qui didicit patriæ quid debet, et quid amicis.’* Equally modest and tolerant, you must yet gird yourselves to cope with error, and to spread light, or be for ever lost to the applause of the good. In this glorious struggle you must quit yourselves like men; for here are wanted no triflers, no insignificants, but zealous, earnest workers. Here too are wanted not superficiality but thoroughness; not merely the graces, but also the virtues; not hollow punctiliousness, but genial morality; not a torpid lukewarmness, but a lively exercise of every faculty and talent. And wherever duty, wherever honor calls, there must you be, and dare to do all it becomes a man to do, to overcome ignorance and stem the torrent of prevailing immorality. And prevailing misery too; for you must extend your view over all the wide field of practical benevolence, and unite yourselves with that glorious band of both sexes who are habitually engaged in assuaging the pains and alleviating the woes of mankind. Let it be your chief ambition thus to engage yourselves, so that responsive to the words but just now uttered by your representative, when you are called hence, you may leave the world better and happier for you



having lived in it. And think not that your success in the battle of life will be viewed either coldly or uninterestedly. Nay, but on you do relatives, instructors, friends and society now turn their anxious eye, all alike desirous to see realized in you their best wishes, their fondest hopes. In your keeping there is placed the happiness of many others. On your behaviour will depend the progress of multitudes who will rise or sink accordingly as you shall adorn or disgrace your generation, accordingly as you shall fulfil or neglect the discharge of the various duties devolving upon you as conservators of those great moral and social privileges which must be transferred to your keeping when your predecessors have finished their allotted task, and their sand is run. You may thus be blessed as the benefactors, or become execrated as the enemies of humanity. It is given you to choose. But when mortal and immortal powers are interested in your choice; when the great Searcher of all is watching you from Heaven his dwelling-place, and when those you respect and love best on earth are regarding you with earnest expectation and awful suspense, can I doubt what will be your choice? No. It will be that which constitutes the whole duty of man, 'TO FEAR GOD AND OBSERVE ALL HIS LAWS.'

Rev. Professor HATCH, B.A., of Morrin College, was then called on by the President, and addressed the meeting. He said that he stood before them as the representative of a kindred Institution in a neighbouring city, which had recently been affiliated to McGill University. He was glad of the affiliation, in the interests of education, because by it the sphere of competition would be widened, the standard of attainment raised. There would be between the students of the two Colleges a spirit of friendly emulation, which would prove of great value as an incentive to study: whoever won the race, the advantage would be the same, for in contests of this kind exertion was in itself an end, and the good was in proportion to the amount of energy expended. He was glad of the affiliation also in the interests of Truth,—because, by raising the standard of attainment, students would be brought nearer Truth, the finding out and practice of which was the great aim of their lives. He thought also that advantage would result not only to Morrin College, but to the University itself, which could now claim to be even more than hitherto the chief Educational Institution of a great and growing Province.

The PRINCIPAL then said:—

*Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of Convocation:*

In the past year two honorary and two *ad eundem* degrees have been granted by the Corporation of the University;

(1.) To Edward Carter, Esq., Q.C., Associate Professor of Criminal Law in this University, the degree of B.C.L., *honoris causa*;

(2.) To D. L. Auger Carey, M. B., &c., the degree of M. D., to be reckoned as an *ad eundem* degree, on the unanimous recommendation to that effect of the Faculty of Medicine;

(3.) To the Rev. Peter D. Muir, the degree of B. A. *ad eundem*;

(4.) To the Rev. William Lyall, the degree of LL.D., *honoris causa*. Dr. Lyall is an alumnus of a Scottish University, the author of a work of some note on "The Intellect, the Emotions, and the Moral Nature," and occupies an important Chair in Dalhousie College, the Provincial University of Nova Scotia, which has recently been revived on principles not dissimilar from those of this University, and we trust has entered on a career of usefulness and prosperity.

The past session, more especially in connection with the Faculty of Arts, has been marked by an event of great importance in the history of the University. I refer to the affiliation of Morrin College, Quebec, a representative of which we to-day welcome among us, and which has sent up eleven students who have passed the intermediate examinations. Founded, like this University, by a wealthy and liberal citizen, the Morrin College purposes to do for the higher education in Quebec what we have been doing here. In seeking to be affiliated to this University it declares its intention to set before its students no lower standard of attainment than that established here,—and we, in associating it with us, show our willingness to aid the cause of British and Protestant education in our sister city, and to make this University more than ever before what its founder intended it should become, the Provincial Protestant University of Lower Canada. With a College in each of the three great seats of English population in Lower Canada it has in fact attained to this eminence. The modesty of our founder required only that one of the Colleges of his proposed University might bear his name; and perhaps the time may come when some more general designation would be desirable; but in the mean time the friends of the higher education throughout this Province cannot rally under a better name than that of the founder of the first Cana-



dian University, a name already favourably known wherever Canada is known. We trust that the educational union which we have seen established between Quebec and Montreal may be permanent and beneficial to the young men of both cities, or resorting to them for education.

The past year has largely increased the number of distinctions we have to offer to the Graduating Class in Arts. Our gold medals are but the gilding on the surface of a college education, but they stimulate to a healthy emulation, and give to deserving young men a memorial of early triumphs and an earnest of success in life. McGill College has had few such distinctions to offer. For some years we had only the medal founded by Mr. Chapman, and subsequently that founded by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and the number of rewards being less than that of honour subjects, a certain injustice was done to one or other of these in alternate years. Now this difficulty is removed, and in this matter we can take our place on an equality with any American University.

First in order of time, a lady of this city, Mrs. Molson, offered to the University a gold medal for Mathematics and Physical Sciences, and the "ANNE MOLSON MEDAL" adds a new and graceful link of connection with the College to a name already noted for such liberality. More than this, as coming from a lady's hand, it is a mark of the interest which an educated and thoughtful woman takes in the higher education, and of the sympathy which a mother feels with the struggles of the sons of other Canadian mothers to earn honourable distinction. This medal should be regarded by our students not merely as the gage of combat in the field of the higher mathematics, but as a pledge taken of them for the high and honorable devotion of their powers throughout life.

It has often been said, though little followed in practice, that when we are called on to celebrate the memory of the mighty dead, we do this in the most rational and most fitting way by helping and succouring their living representatives and successors, by promoting the ends to which they devoted their lives, and by striving ourselves and stimulating others to imitate whatever was good or great in their examples. These were evidently the views of those citizens of Montreal who founded for us 'THE SHAKSPERE MEDAL.' Whether we regard their gift as an evidence of affection for the University, as an inducement to the culture of our noble English tongue, or as a means of honouring

the memory of the great dramatist, or as uniting all these motives and objects, it is most honourable to them, and deserves to be widely known as one of the happiest thoughts that have occurred to any community in connection with this celebration. There is no subject in which students enter College less prepared than in the English language and its literature; none more important to their future usefulness and success, and it is to be hoped that the institution of this medal will stimulate to a higher devotion to this subject both in the College and the Preparatory Schools.

Not less appropriate is the foundation of "THE LOGAN MEDAL" for Geology and Natural Science, which will forever connect the name of our great Canadian geologist, a name itself imperishable, with the successive aspirants to distinction in the same honourable path who go forth from the University, and who I hope may uphold the reputation of this country in a subject in itself second to no department of scientific study, and which from our peculiar position, in connection with the tendencies of the age, is one of the most important to the educated Canadian, and offers, more than any other, avenues to scientific distinction and eminence.

It would scarcely be in accordance with the circumstances, or with my practice on previous occasions, were I to neglect to inform our friends that there are still many ways in which, through us, they can advance the cause of higher education. Among those which are most easy and least costly, I may mention the addition of books to our library, or the provision of bursaries for poor scholars. As of still higher importance, I may specify the endowment of one or more of our Chairs already established, and of thereby enabling the University to secure for its own benefit and the advantage of the city some portion of those beautiful grounds which are rapidly changing into streets and terraces. I am the more encouraged to mention these things, that we have so often found that to make our wants known is to have them supplied.

There is but one point in the results of the Faculty of Arts for the past year which is to me a source of regret. It is that so few members of our graduating class belong to Montreal. The time was when we had an opposite cause of complaint; when of our small number of students nearly all were from the city. Now the case is reversed; and while the number of students from the country has largely increased, no corresponding increase has taken place in the students from Mont-

real. It is surely unwise in the citizens of Montreal, who so generously sustain this University, to withhold its advantages from their own sons, and to send them directly from the schools into the business of life. This is the more blameworthy, inasmuch as the fees in Arts are so low as to render the course, to persons resident in the city, almost gratuitous. I trust that a change will rapidly take place in the practice of our citizens in this respect, and that of the hundreds of boys now in the schools of the city some considerable portion will annually come up to enter college.

Rev. Professor HATCH then pronounced the benediction.

## S E C O N D   D A Y .

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In the absence of the President, **ALEXANDER MORRIS, Esq., M.A., D.C.L.**, one of the Governors, took the Chair.

The following Members of Convocation were present:—

- Alexander Morris, M.A.; D.C.L., M.P.P.;**  
**Andrew Robertson, M.A.;**  
**William Molson, Esq.;**  
**John William Dawson, L.L.D., F.R.S., F.G.S., 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;**  
**Hon. J. J. C. Abbott, B.C.L., Dean of the Faculty of Law;**  
**Brown Chamberlin, M.A., B.C.L.;**  
**George W. Campbell, 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. De Sola, 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;**  
**Chas. F. A. Markgraf, Professor of German Language and Literature;**  
**D. C. McCallum, M. D., Professor of Clinical Medicine and Medical Jurisprudence;**



Alexander Johnson, LL.D., Professor of Mathematics and Natural  
Philosophy ;  
 Rev. George Cornish, M.A., Professor of Classical Literature ;  
 Robert Craik, M.D., Professor of Clinical Surgery ;  
 Edward Carter, B.C.L., Q. C., Associate Professor of Criminal Law ;  
 George Edgeworth Fenwick, M. D. ;  
 Wm. Craig Baynes, B.A., Secretary and Registrar of the University ;  
 George Murray, B. A. ;  
 Francis Wayland Campbell, M.D. ;  
 Edward Henry Trenholme, M.D. ;  
 Edwin Gould, M.A. ;  
 Robert A. Leach, M.A.. B.C.L. ;  
 Romeo H. Stephens, B.C.L. ;  
 William F. Gairdner, B.A. ;  
 Dunbar Browne, B.A. ;  
 John L. Morris, B.C.L. ;  
 Mederic Lanctot, B.C.L. ;  
 Louis Armstrong, B.C.L. ;  
 Gonsalve Doutre, B.C.L. ;  
 David S. Leach, B.C.L. ;  
 James Kirby, M.A., B.C.L. ;  
 Joseph Green, B.A. ;  
 Robert Anstruther Ramsay, B.A.,  
 Charles G. B. Drummond, B. A. ;  
 Norman William Trenholme, B.A. ;  
 Sampson Paul Robins, B.A. ;  
 Lemuel Cushing, B.A. ;  
 Leonidas Heber Davidson, B.A. ;  
 David Ross McCord, B.A. ;  
 Rev. James Davidson, B.A. ;  
 John A. Bothwell, B.A. ;  
 Archibald Duff, B.A. ;  
 Lonsdale Green, B.A. ;  
 James McGregor, B.A. ;  
 G. A. Pease, B.A. ;  
 Alvan F. Sherrill, B.A.

The proceedings were opened with prayer, by the Rev. Canon  
LEACH, D.C.L., LL.D., Vice-Principal. The minutes were read by  
the Secretary, WM. C. BAYNES, B. A.

The President, Mr. MORRIS, stated that he had hoped to have



seen here the President and others of the Governors, who would have addressed the meeting. He would simply express the satisfaction he felt that the efforts being made by the University were meeting with the appreciation of the people of the Province. As a proof of this, he need only point to the recent presentation of medals, which was also an evidence that the University was steadily rising.

Dr. G. W. CAMPBELL, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, then made the following statement concerning the work of that Faculty during the year:—The number of Matriculated Students in the past Session was 177; of these, 93 were from Canada East, 78 from Canada West, 1 from New Brunswick, 1 from Nova Scotia, 1 from Prince Edward's Island, and 3 from the United States. The number of Students who passed the Primary Examination, which includes Anatomy, Chemistry, Materia Medica, Institutes of Medicine, Botany and Zoology, was 31, as follows:—Messrs. John W. Bligh, Quebec, C.E.; Kenneth Reid, Huntingdon, C.E.; George C. Butler, Brystow, C.W.; John B. Christie, Oxford Mills, C.W.; Edward B. Gibson, Ottawa, C.W.; Edward B. Hurd, Eaton, C.E.; Henry L. Vercoe, Fingall, C.W.; Prosper Bender, Quebec, C.E.; Mills K. Church, Merrickville, C.W.; James Fitzgerald, Fenelon Falls, C.W.; Napoleon Mongenais, Rigaud, C.E.; James T. Halliday, Bowmanville, C.W.; Alfred Beaudet, Coteau du Lac, C.E.; Malcolm R. Meigs, Bedford, C.E.; Egerton R. Switzer, Earnestown, C.W.; John C. Jones, Prescott, C.W.; Stewart Creighton, Prescott, C.W.; Silas J. Bower, Kemptville, C.W.; Alexander R. Pinet, St. Laurent, C.E.; John W. McVean, Montague, C.W.; Charles E. Graham, Ottawa, C.W.; Timothy Bigelow, Whitby, C.W.; Abraham G. Godfrey, Chicago, U.S.; Walter J. McInnes, Vittoria, C.W.; Alfred Codd, Ottawa, C.W.; Richard T. Langrell, Ottawa, C.W.; Henry C. Rugg, Compton, C.E.; Hannibal W. Wood, Durham, C.E.; T. A. Dufort, St. Mark, C.E.; John Cassidy, Goderich, C.W., George Sherk, Walpole, C.W.

The following list contains the names of the 23 Students presented for the Degree of M.D.C.M., their residences and the subjects of their Theses:—

- William Wood Squire, M.A., Montreal, C.E.:—Pathology and Treatment of some forms of Partial Paralysis.
- Griffith Evans, Montreal, C.E.:—Pathogenesis and Histology of Tuberculosis.
- James Paterson, Almonte, C.W.:—Fractures of the Femur.

- David Howard Harrison, St. Mary's, C.W.:—Bronchitis.  
 Herbert S. Tew, Montreal, C.E.:—Cod Liver Oil.  
 Charles F. Bullen, Delaware, C.W.:—Clinical Thesis on cases of continued Fever, as observed in the Montreal General Hospital.  
 Richard A. Kennedy, Montreal, C.E.:—Vesico Vaginal Fistula.  
 David Robertson, Milton, C.W.:—Ovarian Cystic Tumors.  
 George Dice, Milton, C.W.:—Anæmia.  
 Alex. A. Fergusson, Cornwall, C.W.:—Morbus Addisonii.  
 Horace P. Redner, Belleville, C.W.:—Esoteric Fever, as observed in the neighbourhood of Belleville.  
 John Dodd, Port Hope, C.W.:—Acute Rheumatism.  
 William Kempt, Lindsay, C.W.:—Diphtheria.  
 Peter A. MacDougall, Aylmer, C.E.—Traumatic Tetanus.  
 Marcel Richard, St. Jacques, C.E.:—Smallpox.  
 Charlemagne Dubuc, Montreal, C.E.—Pathology General des Secretions.  
 John D. McCord, Montreal, C.E.:—Hydrocyanic Acid.  
 Alex. R. Pinet, St. Laurent, C.E.:—De l'Hysterie.  
 Mills Kemble Church, Merrickville, C.W.:—Scarletina.  
 Edward B. Gibson, Ottawa, C.W.:—Digitalis Purpurea.  
 Montrose A. Pallen, M.D., St. Louis, Missouri, U. S.:—The Ophthalmoscope and its Revelations.  
 Samuel Pratt Woodfull, Assistant-Surgeon, Royal Artillery, Toronto, C.W.:—Paralysis.  
 Kenneth Reid, Huntingdon, C.E.:—Chloroform.

Prosper Bender, Quebec, C.E., James A. Temple, Quebec, C.E., and John R. Richardson, Quebec, C.E., passed their examination for graduation; but not being of age, could not receive their degrees until next Convocation.

The prizes given by the Medical Faculty are three in number, and were awarded as follows:—

- William Wood Squire, M.A., for the best Thesis;  
 Daniel Howard Harrison, for the best Final Examination;  
 Kenneth Reid, for the best Primary Examination.

Messrs. Bullen, Reid, Kempt, and Church's Theses were considered worthy of competing for the best prize.

William Wood Squire, M. A., Herbert Tew, Professor's Prizes in Clinical Medicine;

- W. H. Fraser, Professor's Prize in Botany;  
 W. H. Fraser, ditto in Zoology.

Dr. HALL then administered the oath to the Graduating Class, when the degree was conferred by Principal DAWSON.

The Valedictory Address was then read by WILLIAM WOOD SQUIRE, M.A., M.D.C.M., of the Graduating Class, as follows:—

There are periods in the life of each of us when we pause for a retrospect, the sadness of severed associations strangely blending with and dominating the bright anticipations of the future. The members of the Graduating Class, in Medicine, of this University, meet together this day, as a unit, for the last time. The resistless current which converges us to this reunion will shortly separate us more widely than ever. It is well then that we should scan the future, gather up the pleasant memories of the past, and exchange this public *Sacrament of Friendship* before parting for our *life-work*.

For a few years a common tie has bound us, a common purpose has animated us. As we have toiled together up the rugged steep, we have learned the value, the dignity of labour, and its essential importance to success in life. If it be a received maxim in all occupations that the greatest workers are the most successful, the truth has a ten-fold deeper significancy in the absorbing requirements of the profession of our choice. There is a sacredness, a divinity in Work; and the grandeur of this truth was embodied in the motto of the ancient monks, "*Laborare est orare*," "*Work is Worship*." It lies at the foundation of all the acted epics and heroisms of real life. Its feet may touch the earth, but it raises its heaven-erected brow to the noble, the lofty and divine. Nor can we admit even Genius to a rivalry. Few are the men who possess it, and God alone can make them; but a brave heart, a firm purpose, and untiring energy, are never without their reward. Some may fall in their uncurbed enthusiasm, and it is very sad when this happens; but the cases are few: the victims to sloth are far more numerous than the martyrs to study. It is too often the "*palma sine pulvere*,"—the prize of glory without the dust of the race,—that ambitious youth so ardently covets; but the voice of the Grecian sage calls to us through the long vista of centuries: "In the morning of life, *work*; in the mid-day, *give counsel*; in the evening, *pray*;" and the advice becomes imperative when we add to it the injunction of the Divine Master, "*Work while it is called day*." *Industry* and *Worth* are the only eternal patents of nobility; to them God Himself has affixed His seal, and it is these which have invested with glory names which all may emulate. In no profession is a tireless labour more demanded than in ours, for its true ratio is, always, one of responsibility. Without depreciating the high im-

portance of other callings, we claim for Medicine a position second in responsibility *to but one*; and, in many points, taking unquestioned precedence of all. The physician must deal with *human life* in its varying phases, its wondrous mysteries;—with the soul which inspires it, as well as with the body on which that soul acts. As one has well said, “Man is a unity. He appeals to the judgment of Solomon, and refuses to be cut into dead halves, the one of which shall be handed to the physician, and the other to the clergyman, to be medicined by each according to the rules of his art. He is a living whole, to be nursed solely by the one, or solely by the other,—or, what is best, to be nursed in turns by both.” Whatever be the motives which lead us to the benevolent profession we have this day assumed, its solemn engagements demand from us that we should, whenever necessary,

“minister to a mind diseas'd;  
 “Pluck from the memory a rooted sorrow;  
 “Raze out the written troubles of the brain;  
 “And, with some sweet oblivious antidote,  
 “Cleanse the stuff'd bosom of that perilous stuff,  
 “Which weighs upon the heart?”

Thus the physician, whatever his opinions may be, is often compelled to pass from *physics* to *ethics*; and, while enforcing *hygiene*, to inculcate the purest maxims of *virtue*. Permit me to carry the thought an easy stage further. In the olden time, among the Egyptians, Chaldeans, Jews, and the earlier Greeks and Romans, the physician was a priest, administering all the duties of the priestly office. It was mediæval darkness which severed a natural union than which none could be nobler. The Doctor is the oracle of the sick room, every motion is watched, every expression has its meaning: his calm serenity contrasts with the troubled anxiety of his patient; while his clear recognition of the state of the sick man and his prospects,—his acquaintance with his fancies, his fears, and his weaknesses,—combine to inspire a confidence extended to no other, and which may lead, in wise hands, to the happiest results. The strong and impressive alliances of our profession with suffering, want, and sin, give scope for all the nobility of humanity. In his incessant conflict with disease and death, the true physician is an honourable soldier, never a mercenary: the cry of suffering is the surest passport to his presence. True, the labourer is always worthy of his hire; but the enlightened and Christian physician, fired by the conviction that *over all this earth*



there is nothing so *great*, so *lasting*, so *precious*, so *princely* and *royal* as man, labours under the impressive thought that he is dealing with God's master-piece of creation, and is responsible to Him for his mode of treatment. In battling with disease, who has not been struck by the dark obscurity, the mysterious infinity of suffering.

"Yet through that darkness, (infinite though it seem  
 "And irremovable), gracious openings lie  
 "Even to the fountain head of peace divine."

Saddened and baffled by the unequal struggle, we discern, at length, a deeper meaning in disease than is recognised by any records of the mere pathologist. We see its friendly office in transforming weariness, sickness and pain into a bounding, exultant immortality; and learn that *life* is but the *way of dying*,—that *death* is but the *gate to life*.

Now we catch a glimpse of the grand idea of our profession. Here Death pervades all. Every inspiration of every breath tells of death; every beating of every pulse, every throbbing of every heart, every period of life, tells of death. Death is not only seen in the snows frosting the head of age, but also in the brilliancy which flashes in the eye of infancy,—in the tinge which lights up with beauty the cheek of youth. Death is in all the seasons: in the showers of spring,—in the sunbeams of summer,—in the ripeness of autumn,—in the storms and blasts of winter. As the dread monarch he lifts up his ebon sceptre and says, "all this is mine," and none can gainsay his power. With this foe, all-panoplied and formidable, the physician chivalrously engages, and *aims at his patient's immortality*. This, I repeat, whatever be its failure on earth, is the grand idea of our profession. It is one of no mean coinage; but has been flung into language impressive as beautiful by the giant mind of Dr. George Wilson, of Edinburgh. That distinguished light in the arena of science, who combined in himself that which, alas! is too frequently dissociated, the most cultured of intellects with the highest developments of moral purity, has said that "the spirit in which the physician labours is assuredly that of regarding Death *not* as an invulnerable foe. He may believe, as a man, that Death will conquer; but, as a physician, he stands over his patient to fight the great enemy to the last, as if there might be *one* exception, *if but one*, to the otherwise universal law." And again, "Let but a life beyond the grave be admitted, and an immortality both of soul and body be believed in, and the Christian physician, at

least, can anticipate with certainty the full realization of the fundamental idea of his high calling."

Here all things must perish: the most colossal and enduring works of man; his plans, his hopes, his very remembrance. The wondrous sculpturing of a Phidias,—the magic pencillings of a Claude,—the seraphic strains of a Handel,—the sublime grandeur of a Milton,—the peerless delineations of a Shakspeare,—all must pass away. But our work is not bounded by time; our art deals with objects limitless as eternity, and which must bear with them the impress of our influence forever. *Now*, mystery and darkness mark man's highest effort,—the morning sun just touches the hill-tops: but bye-and-bye, when the full sunlight of a revealed future shall shine on every dim principle of time, the radiance of this truth shall fall with gentle peace on the heart of many a faithful, toiling, weary physician, then forever at rest.

And now, we must say "farewell." We thank the audience for the interest manifested in the proceedings of the day. May this expanding City (so *liberally* represented here this afternoon) and her progressive University always be sisters in affection and interests.

Chivalrous devotion to any exalted work has always looked to Woman for sympathy and countenance. It is in this spirit that we greet her presence to-day as an evidence of her profound and intuitive appreciation of the lofty purposes of a Doctor's mission.

Gentlemen, our masters in the Science of Healing, to your skill, forbearance and devotion, our professional life, with any success we may achieve, will be forever a debtor, Your enthusiasm and ability as our instructors have been equalled only by your sympathy with our difficulties,—your kindly interest in our welfare. As we pass from your fostering care, memory lightens on the past, revealing many a graceful courtesy, many a helpful act, which shall link our hearts to you in most pleasant remembrance. We part from you at a time when we are best prepared to appreciate your labours and respond to them; but, though your task has been a laborious one,—and its results, in ourselves, precarious,—yet your toils may be solaced by the prophetic faith which soothed the dark, dreary days of the greatest of modern poets: that he was sowing the seeds of truth for posterity, leaving them to the care of heaven. As a class, we should be insensible to our obligations if we did not pledge ourselves to a life of earnest purpose,—that we may never bring discredit on your instructions,—

never sully the fair escutcheon of that University whose distinctions we are, this day, honoured with wearing.

To the Undergraduates in Medicine we wish increasing success and distinguished honours. When your last session here shall have closed, may each be able to say to himself, "I have not in aught dishonoured the name of student; I have not disappointed my professors; I shall not be ashamed to go home and meet those parents, brothers and sisters, whose hearts yearn over me, and whose tenderest hopes are bound up in me."

Brothers in toil and hope, the serried truths of our calling appeal to us now with lens-like clearness. We, this day, gird ourselves anew for the race, and address ourselves to our great work, on the threshold of which we have, for a few years, been standing. Come with me, in thought, over the years of our working together. From our common labors and hopes now blossoming to fruition; from our mutual dangers and difficulties, our falterings and depressions,—nay, may I not say, even from our very rivalries,—have sprung into life warm, imperishable friendships, which shall stand the test of the rude storms of life. Brothers, the sphere for high advancement and lofty achievement was never so large as now. The difficulties in our path will test our capabilities of endurance; but if there be any *might* in our soul, like the Alpine avalanche, its momentum will be increased by every impeding obstruction, and a complete manhood will be evolved.

The glad hours of morning are now opening on us, and, through the richly-painted windows of the fancy, the sun-light streams in upon the soul. With love for the beautiful, and quenchless thirst for the true, twining the one round the other,—as the Acanthus leaf round the Corinthian pillar,—let us spring forward in the march, where so many worthier have fallen, with hearts united, though our paths must be divided.

"Friend, I shrink to say  
 "Farewell to thee. In youth's unclouded morn  
 "We gaze on Friendship as a graceful flower,  
 "And win it for our pleasure or our pride;  
 "But, when the stern realities of life  
 "Do clip the wings of fancy, and rude storms  
 "Rack the worn cordage of the heart, it breathes  
 "A healing essence and a strengthening charm  
 "Next to the hope of Heaven."

Professor SCOTT, M.D., then addressed the Graduates in Medicine in the following terms :—

*Gentlemen Graduates in Medicine :*

The duty has devolved upon me of addressing a few parting words of advice, ere the separation of that intimate connection which has existed between yourselves and the professors of that department of the University into which you have this day been admitted as graduates.

I can sincerely assure you, gentlemen, that to myself individually, a feeling doubtless participated in by my colleagues, the proceedings of this, our annual Convocation day, are attended with mingled sensations of pleasure and regret. The former from its being an evidence that the period over which your studies have extended, the instructions received during your attendance at this College, the examinations you have undergone, and your own diligence, have obtained that reward which from the commencement of your studies you have been, with anxiety and delight, looking forward to,—and the latter from having so soon to part from those, with many of whom having passed four years, almost in our daily presence, we have become upon very close and friendly terms.

Rejoicing, as we all most cordially do, in the success with which your assiduity and acquirements have been recognised, it must ever be remembered that the practice of the profession selected as your future walk in life, and upon which, I anticipate, many of you will at once enter, has not only its agreeable offices, but not unfrequently very unpleasant and distressing duties to perform. To undertake and discharge such with advantage to the sick, who may be entrusted to your skill, should always be your highest aim, being prepared, in all cases of emergency, by patient, persevering industry, whereby alone, you will be enabled to overcome that painful feeling of uncertainty, which, the most thoroughly educated physician is occasionally called upon to endure, when first embarking in the responsibilities of early professional life.

The ceremony, gentlemen, which you have just passed through, imposes upon you much greater and additional obligations than you previously possessed, and should, therefore, impress each of you with a deep sense of the magnitude of your new position, for the proper performance of which, you will be required some day to render an



account, and the consideration of which should consequently stimulate you to increased exertions, to unite with your own observations the most assiduous attention to reading; for every day should be considered misspent which had not contributed, in some degree, towards the augmentation of your store of knowledge, applicable, for lessening the sufferings of those, whose lives may be entrusted to your care.

It will not be found among the least of the annoyances, which a medical man, in practice, will sometimes encounter, to find with what ingratitude mankind frequently regard his exertions and best directed efforts. This may be experienced in various ways; for example, perhaps in the summary dismissal of the physician, and probably substituting in his stead, one or other, of the numerous empirics so commonly met with in the present day. It may be thought that it could only be from the ranks of the uneducated that a physician would be subjected to such treatment. Such, however, is by no means correct, for we frequently find the most credulous, to rank among those occupying prominent positions in society, and from whom better examples might have been, *at least*, expected.

Acknowledging such to be the case, should you, therefore, be discouraged? Not so, gentlemen; the physician should be actuated by a far higher consideration than the mere capricious praise and remuneration of this world's inhabitants, by desire for that reward which can be realized in the conscientious discharge of his duty and a conviction that he has employed every means in the treatment of the patient that judgment and experience could suggest, and the urgency of the case demand.

Should any of you, gentlemen, have been induced to obtain your diploma, with the vain idea of accumulating wealth, having no other motive or principle to encourage you, believe me you have committed a sad and grievous error, for I can assure you, that opulence, as a general rule, appears not to be the physician's lot,—and while I would, in every respect, advocate the imperative injunction of "providing for one's own house," I would at the same time condemn the individual who, exposed as the medical practitioner must inevitably be in his vocation, lives without contributing his mite, it may perchance be in tender sympathies, gratuitous advice to the poor, or the means whereby the temporal necessities of those requiring it may be administered to.

Again, the physician who would fulfil the duties incumbent upon

him satisfactorily and faithfully must also evince, not only a desire to alleviate the sufferings and supply the wants of the body, but should continually bear in mind that there dwells within, an *ever-living and immortal principle*, the care of which should invariably influence the medical man. It cannot fail, for example, of becoming the lot of every physician, to be at times anxiously interrogated by those dangerously ill, or their friends, as to what might be the probable result of their disease. Now under such circumstances, as indeed upon all occasions, never fail to "do unto others as you would they should do unto you," or no conduct is more reprehensible, neither can any greater injustice be possibly done, and for which you will assuredly be held accountable, than deceiving a dying man, by concealing from him his true condition, when perhaps the great interests of eternity may be decided by your answer.

We have all heard with delight, gentlemen, an account of the extremely liberal donations recently placed at the disposal of the Faculty of Arts. Too much praise cannot be extended to those, who from their abundance offer young men inducements to greater zeal and diligence in acquiring a more thorough knowledge of the various branches pertaining to the students in the department of Arts. It affords me, I can assure you, the greatest satisfaction at having an opportunity of expressing the pleasure experienced by the Faculty, with which I have the honour of being associated, at every mark of distinction received and so justly merited by our fellow-labourers in the sister Faculty. I allude, of course, to the establishment of three gold medals to be awarded annually in addition to the two similar medals previously in the possession of the same Faculty. Yet while I most cordially rejoice at the feelings which have prompted the donors of these medals, I may perhaps be permitted to remark, that although the Medical Faculty of this University has been established for upwards of thirty-nine years, and was at one period, extending over some time, the only existing Faculty, and moreover from its prosperous condition, having been self-supporting in its management, it has not, up to this time, had at its disposal a similar proof of the appreciation and liberality of the citizens of Montreal as that recently presented. I am not, however, without strong hopes that by the arrival of the next Convocation our much-esteemed Dean will have the gratification of announcing that the Medical Faculty has, through the generosity of its well-wishers, also an opportunity of awarding a

"Gold Medal" to the successful student who by his talent and proficiency has proved himself worthy of so honourable a mark of distinction. As this is, probably, the first allusion that has been made to the absence of a Medal in the Faculty of Medicine, it might be considered somewhat premature to suggest what in my humble opinion would be a most deserving and grateful tribute to the memory of departed worth, namely, in associating the Medal with that familiar and affectionately remembered name, who nearly forty years since commenced the first Medical School in Canada, and in the benefits of which, gentlemen, you have this day participated,—I refer to our late respected Dean, Professor HOLMES, of whom it may be truly said that no man lived more conscientiously, and few have died more beloved.

In conclusion, I would congratulate you all upon the honours you have this day so justly and worthily received, and sincerely hope that you may be successful in the practice of your profession, prosperous in all your undertakings, and whenever your former instructors may hear of you, while occupying your sphere of usefulness, in whatever country, in the good providence of God, your lot may be cast, it shall be, that you have attained honourable positions in society, are a credit to the Profession and this University, and by conduct on all occasions ornamented by charity, chastity, kindness, and strict temperance, you may be enabled at the close of your earthly pilgrimage to look back with consolation upon a well-spent life, and be remembered by the community in which you practised your noble calling, as men, who under all circumstances, whether in the sunshine of prosperity or under the lowering clouds of adversity, ever lived and acted as became Christian gentlemen.

In the name of the Medical Faculty, I bid you farewell.

The Hon. J. J. C. ABBOTT, B. C. L., Dean of the Faculty of Law, read the list of Honours and Standing in the Faculty, as follows :

FIRST YEAR.

*Commercial Law*, Professor ABBOTT : — 1st, Alfred Welch ; 2nd, John Boyd.

*Civil Law*, Professor TORRANCE : — 1st, Henri Lesieur Desaulniers ; 2nd, Alfred Welch.

*Legal History & Bibliography*, Professor LAFRENAYE : — 1st, Alfred Welch ; 2nd, Henri Lesieur Desaulniers.

*Customary Law and Law of Real Estate*, Professor LAFLAMME :—  
1st, Wilfred Laurier, Richard A. A. Jones, equal ; 2nd, Alfred Welch.

*Criminal and Constitutional Law*, Professor CARTER :—1st, Alfred Welch ; 2nd, Wilfrid Laurier.

## SECOND YEAR.

Professor ABBOTT :—1st, Norman William Trenholme ; 2nd, George W. Hill.

Professor TORRANCE :—1st, Norman William Trenholme ; 2nd, Elisha Styles Lyman.

Professor LAFRENAYE :—1st, Elisha Stiles Lyman ; 2nd, F. E. Gilman.

Professor LAFLAMME :—1st, Norman William Trenholme ; 2nd, G. W. Hill.

## FIRST YEAR.

Professor ABBOTT :—1st, R. Stoddart Lawlor ; 2nd, C. Alphonse Geoffrion.

Professor TORRANCE :—1st, R. Stoddart Lawlor ; 2nd, Ed. Ruthven Johnson, Robert Anstruther Ramsay, B.A., equal.

Professor LAFRENAYE :—1st, R. A. Ramsay, B. A. ; 2nd, Richard Stoddart Lawlor, C. Alphonse Geoffrion, equal.

Professor LAFLAMME :—1st, C. Alphonse Geoffrion ; 2nd, Richard Stoddart Lawlor.

## RANKING OF STUDENTS AS TO GENERAL PROFICIENCY.

3rd Year :—1. Alfred Welch, first in three classes, and second in two ;  
2. Henri Lesieur Desaulniers, first in one and second in one, and Wilfred Laurier, equal.

2nd Year :—1. Norman William Trenholme, first in three classes ;  
2. Elisha Styles Lyman.

1st Year :—1. Richard Stoddart Lawlor, first in two and second in two classes ; 2. C. Alphonse Geoffrion.

He then presented the following gentlemen for graduation :—

John Boyd, B. A.,  
Leonidas Heber Davidson, B. A.,  
Richard A. A. Jones, B.A.,  
Henri Lesieur Desaulniers,  
Naphtali Durand,  
Joseph Antoine Galarneau,  
Joseph O. Joseph,  
Wilfred Laurier,  
Charles O. Stevens,  
Arthur Taschereau,  
Alfred Welch.

The affirmation was then administered by the Secretary and the degree conferred by the Principal.



The Valedictory was then read by Mr. WILFRID LAURIER, B.C.L., as follows:—

*Aux Elèves de l'Université McGill, Faculté de Droit.*

MESSIEURS :

De toutes les missions qu'il a été donné d'exercer à l'homme vivant en société, je n'en sache pas de plus grande que celle de l'homme de loi.

La mission de l'homme de loi est toute dans cette pensée : faire régner la justice. Rien sur la terre n'est aussi précieux que la justice, et rien peut-être n'est aussi difficile à obtenir.

Tel est l'inconcevable mélange de bien et de mal dont se compose la nature de l'homme, que le vrai et le faux se retrouvent dans toutes ses œuvres.

Etant donné, cet état de choses démontré par l'expérience de chaque jour, l'on conçoit que c'est pour la société une tâche très ardue, en même temps qu'une responsabilité terrible, que celle de distribuer la justice à ses membres.

Aussi dès que la civilisation commença à se répandre, l'administration de la justice qui jusque-la avait été fixée entre les mains arbitraires du pouvoir fut confiée à une classe d'hommes spécialement voués à cet objet.

Savoir faire le partage du vrai et du faux ; savoir, dans les complications les plus enchevêtrées, faire la juste part du bien et du mal ; savoir maintenir et partager les droits des citoyens ; savoir conserver le repos général ; savoir conserver aux familles l'héritage des aïeux, à l'individu l'honneur attaqué, à la morale publique, la juste répression des offenses ; savoir contenir l'audace du puissant et relever la misère du faible, sans violence pour l'un, sans impunité pour l'autre, rendre enfin à chacun selon ses œuvres, voilà la mission conférée à l'homme de loi.

Et je ne sache rien de plus grand ; j'admire l'homme qui sur un champ de bataille sait mourir et sauver sa patrie ; j'admire l'homme qui sait attacher toutes les générations aux créations de son génie ; j'admire l'homme qui consacre toute une vie au soulagement de l'humanité, mais j'admire encore plus celui qui a pris pour but de sa vie, de ses études et de ses travaux, de rendre à chacun selon ses œuvres.

Toutes les gloires tous les mérites pâlissent devant ces simples et

grandes pensées : rendre à chacun selon ses œuvres, faire régner la justice.

Mais aussi la société exige de ceux qui se vouent à l'administration de la justice de rudes et laborieux travaux.

Outre de fortes études préliminaires, il faut encore à l'homme de loi une connaissance approfondie non-seulement des lois de son pays, mais encore des législations qui ont jeté le plus d'éclat ; il doit posséder non-seulement ces principes d'éternelle vérité qui ne varient jamais, mais savoir suivre les mutations et les changements des siècles et les besoins de l'époque où il vit ; enfin il doit posséder un fond de connaissances telles qu'il puisse dans toutes les œuvres humaines, faire la distinction du mal et du bien et de rendre à chacun selon ses œuvres.

Voilà, ce que la société attend et exige de l'homme de loi.

Je l'avouerai pourtant, ce n'est pas ainsi que la profession est envisagée.

Mais l'état actuel de la profession ne détruit pas la vérité de ce que j'ai dit, et nous gagnerions tous, je crois, à voir ces idées répandues davantage.

Plus ces idées se développeront, plus la mission de l'homme de loi sera aggrandie et redoutée : on y verra autre chose qu'un simple gagne-pain ; on y verra plus qu'un art, plus qu'une science ; on y verra un grand devoir à accomplir ; moins grand sera le nombre de ceux qui s'y vouent et plus zélés, plus actifs, plus ardents au travail serons-nous, nous qui embrasserons cette carrière.

Outre cette mission générale de rendre justice, l'homme de loi, dans un pays libre, en voit une autre ouverte devant lui.

C'est un fait remarquable et avéré que dans un pays libre, la première place appartient aux hommes de loi.

C'est ainsi qu'en Angleterre on a vu les Eldon, les Erskine, et nombre d'autres, partis des derniers degrés de l'échelle sociale, arriver par l'étude des lois à prendre rang parmi les plus hautes sommités politiques de leur époque.

C'est ainsi que de nos jours, on a vu l'illustre Lord Brougham, à qui l'Angleterre, est redevable de tant d'utiles et profondes réformes, commencer au barreau, une carrière qu'il doit terminer sur les bancs de la chambre des Lords.

C'est ainsi encore qu'hier, quand un peu de liberté était rendue à la France, on voyait de suite le sort des affaires débattu et fixé entre les

mais des Jules Favre, des Ollivier, des Billault, des Rouher, tous hommes de loi.

Eh ! qu'est-il besoin d'aller chercher des exemples étrangers : l'histoire attestera que dans notre pays, les plus illustres hommes d'état furent des hommes de loi.

Il n'y a rien en ceci que de très-naturel : il n'en saurait être autrement avec le régime de la liberté.

La liberté n'est pas le pouvoir de tout dire et de tout faire : la liberté c'est le droit d'agir et de se mouvoir à l'aise et sans entrave dans le cercle de la constitution tracée par le peuple, sans que ce cercle puisse être élargi ou rétréci à volonté par une main despotique.

Ainsi la liberté suppose la loi, et là l'avocat est sur son terrain.

Les prérogatives et les devoirs du peuple et de l'exécutif doivent être maintenus dans les limites de la constitution, et l'homme de loi, par le fait même de ses études, se trouve le mieux placé pour répondre aux exigences de cette situation, soit qu'il agisse dans l'exécutif et réclame les droits de l'autorité, soit que sa voix parte du sein du peuple, pour maintenir ses prérogatives, ou modérer l'action envahissante du pouvoir.

En passant dans le domaine de la politique, l'homme de loi ne change pas de mission ; là encore il aura à rendre à chacun selon ses œuvres, à faire régner la justice ; il ne fait qu'agrandir la sphère de son action : le tribunal auquel il s'adressera désormais sera l'opinion publique ; le thème qu'il développera sera les droits ou les devoirs de toute une nation, et pour auditoire il aura tous les échos de la publicité.

Si je parle ainsi, ce n'est pas que je veuille exciter l'ambition d'aucun ; non, mais il est des enseignements que l'on ne doit jamais perdre de vue.

Nous vivons à une époque, a dit un éminent publiciste, où chacun doit apporter sa pierre à l'édifice social.

Cette vérité, mise partout à exécution, ne produira jamais de résultats aussi considérables qu'en ce pays.

En effet au dix-neuvième siècle, lorsque la plupart des sociétés sont déjà vieilles, ce pays compte à peine quelques siècles d'existence.

Tandis que dans l'ancien monde l'on ne peut plus aujourd'hui s'occuper qu'à réformer, tout est encore neuf, tout est encore à former sur le nouveau continent.

Ce pays-ci peut profiter de l'expérience des autres parties du monde, et éviter ainsi les tâtonnements des sociétés modernes à leur origine.

Aux forces vives de la jeunesse, il peut joindre les lumières des siècles.

Or, comme j'ai essayé de le faire voir plus haut, s'il se trouve quelqu'un qui aime son pays, et qui veuille sincèrement lui venir en aide, c'est par l'étude des lois qu'il y parviendra le plus efficacement.

Mais il y a encore plus : la loi est appelée à jouer en ce pays un autre rôle, rôle immense et que je ne lui connais nulle part ailleurs.

Deux races se partagent aujourd'hui le sol canadien.

Je puis le dire ici, car ce temps n'est plus ; les races française et anglaise n'ont pas toujours été amies ; mais je me hâte de le dire, et je le dis à notre gloire, les luttes de races sont finies sur notre sol canadien ; il n'y a plus ici d'autre famille que la famille humaine, qu'importe la langue que l'on parle, les autels où l'on s'agenouille.

Nous retrouvons chaque jour les heureux effets de cette sainte œuvre,—et dans cette solennité nous en avons encore une nouvelle preuve ; vous avez entendu ici des noms français et anglais, portés sur les tableaux d'honneur, vous avez entendu quelqu'un vous adresser la parole en anglais, et moi maintenant qui vous parle, je vous parle dans ma langue maternelle, je vous parle en français.

Il y a dans cette fraternité une gloire dont le Canada ne sait pas être assez fier, car bien de puissantes nations pourraient ici venir chercher une leçon de justice et d'humanité.

Messieurs, cet heureux état de chose, à quoi le devons-nous ? Il peut en exister plus d'une cause, mais la principale c'est l'étude de la loi.

Deux législations différentes régissent ce pays : la législation française et la législation anglaise. Chacune de ces législations n'oblige pas seulement la race à laquelle elle est propre, mais chacune régit simultanément les deux races—et chose digne de remarque, cette introduction dans le même pays de deux systèmes de législation entièrement différents, s'est faite sans violence, sans usurpation, mais par le seul effet des lois de la justice. Il était en effet naturel qu'en passant sous la domination britannique, les habitants de ce pays continuassent d'être régis par leurs anciennes lois, dans tous les différends nés des transactions ordinaires de la vie, mais il était également juste que le nouveau gouvernement réprimât d'après ses propres lois, les offenses contre l'ordre public. Ces deux législations différentes s'appliquant chacune aux deux différentes races, et toutes deux à chaque race en particulier, ont opéré le premier rapprochement. Que l'on imagine ici sur ce sol, les deux nationalités soumises chacune à ses lois respectives, la cordialité et l'union ne pouvaient pas exister. Pourquoi ? Parceque l'on aurait soigneusement évité des transactions qui auraient pu



avoir pour résultat de faire juger les citoyens par d'autres lois que leurs lois propres. L'étude des lois a continué ce rapprochement, nous nous sommes familiarisés avec les juristes de la France et de l'Angleterre nos mères-patries ; nous allions ensemble les génies de ces grandes nations ; nous prenons la raison et la sagesse partout où elles se trouvent, peu importe dans quelle langue elles soient exprimées.

Comme résultat, et comme preuve de ce que j'avance, je cite ce fait que chacun peut vérifier, savoir, que l'union entre races n'est dans aucune classe de la société canadienne poussée aussi loin que parmi les hommes de loi.

Messieurs telle est la carrière ouverte en ce pays aux hommes de loi ; j'affirme que jamais dans aucun lieu, homme n'eut devant lui carrière aussi vaste et aussi féconde.

La mission de l'homme de loi en Canada embrasse en résumé : la justice la plus noble de toutes les perfections humaines ; le patriotisme, la plus noble de toutes les vertus sociales ; l'union entre peuples, le secret de l'avenir. Maintenant, Messieurs, nous voyons le but ; à nous de faire que nos efforts en soient à la hauteur.

A nos professeurs, à ceux qui nous ont initiés aux premiers secrets de la science du droit, à ceux qui nous ont généreusement ouvert des trésors qu'ils avaient acquis par de laborieuses études, nous disons maintenant adieu et merci. Nous leur devons d'avoir évité de longues et pénibles recherches ; leur main nous a tracé la route à travers le dédale si compliqué de nos lois. La mise à exécution des préceptes qu'ils nous ont donnés, c'est là le plus noble remerciement que nous puissions leur offrir. A nos compagnons d'étude nous disons au revoir ; nous nous retrouverons ailleurs, sur la voie professionnelle.

Parvenus aux extrêmes limites de notre vie d'étudiants, contemplant la route maintenant ouverte devant nous, route pleine d'incertitudes, où nous ne pouvons plus compter que sur nos forces, où il ne se trouvera plus de mains exercées pour extraire les épines et faciliter l'œuvre, et ramenant ensuite notre pensée sur ces jours dont voici le dernier, sur ces jours où l'étude était facile, guidée par des mains savantes, récréée par des amis de chaque jour—cette comparaison seule, à défaut d'autres motifs, suffirait pour nous faire compter ces jours de notre vie d'étudiant, au nombre des plus beaux de notre vie. Quelque soit le sort que l'avenir nous réserve il nous sera toujours doux de nous ressouvenir du temps, des professeurs et des compagnons de notre jeunesse, et dès maintenant, nous pouvons dire comme Enée à ses compagnons "*Forsan et haec olim meminisse juvabit.*"

Professor TORRANCE addressed the graduates in Law.

The degree of Graduate in Civil Engineering was then conferred on GULIAN P. RIXFORD, who had not been present on the previous day.

The PRINCIPAL then spoke as follows:—

*Mr. Chairman, and Gentlemen of Convocation:*

In closing the business of this meeting of Convocation, I have as usual to state our number of students and graduates for the past session. With regard to the former, the University has barely maintained its numbers of last year. We have had—

In Arts - - - - -	67 students,
“ Medicine - - - - -	177 “
“ Law - - - - -	48 “
	—
In all - - - - -	292 “

These numbers are of course exclusive of students in affiliated Colleges and Schools.

Our graduates in course at this meeting of Convocation are—

In Arts - - - - -	13
“ Medicine - - - - -	23
“ Law - - - - -	11
	—
In all - - - - -	47

For the leading features in our Courses of next year, I beg to refer to the Calendar which will be issued in the course of next month, and will be distributed to our students and graduates, who, if they should not receive it within a reasonable time, are requested to send their addresses to the Secretary for this purpose; and I hope that they will as a body make themselves agents for the University with the view of inducing students to enter it. This I request as the least they can do for their Alma Mater.

A graduate, especially in this country, is disposed to regard himself as cast out from his college home to battle with the world, and as absolved from all family ties and duties; but this is a great mistake. It is true that the graduate is no longer a competitor for college standing and honours. He has gone beyond this stage, and has now to earn prizes from the great world in the struggle of life. Nor is it

possible, except in very rare cases, to keep up a close college connection. Even the Fellowships endowed for this purpose in the older Universities, if they could be introduced here, would fail to tempt the best men to remain in college life, when the world is urging them to activity without.

The true relation of the graduate to his University, is that of one who by his success in life and his active exertions shall sustain its interests and those of that higher education which it represents. Taking this view of the case, our graduates will allow me to say that this University has done more for them than they have done for it, and that it gives them abundant facilities for working in its behalf. It has in all cases given to its graduates the weight of its influence in behalf of their professional advancement and in every college appointment. It gives to them a representation in its Corporation, and it is proposed to raise this representation to a point higher than any similar privilege has attained in other Canadian Universities. It has not swamped its graduates in course by swarms of honorary and *ad eundem* degrees. The degrees of these kinds on our lists do not reach 60 in number, while our degrees in course are above 500. These facts give to our graduates not merely a duty to perform toward the University, but the means of performing it.

A preliminary step to this is association. The Graduates' Society exists, and has done some useful and honourable things; but it seems to number as yet only a small part of the actual graduates. It should contain them all; and should not be content with association as an end, but should regard it as a means of doing good to the University, as well as of acquiring influence in its affairs.

The graduates, thus associated, should keep themselves informed of all that concerns the life and progress of the University. More especially should they do this with the view of giving aid and countenance to any useful movement; and they should be ready to take a vigorous hold of those which the ordinary college officers either neglect or cannot accomplish. It is not for me to suggest the details of such work; but it would be easy to occupy your time for hours with important and worthy objects to which the graduates might devote a portion of their energies. I mentioned yesterday some matters of this kind special to the Faculty of Arts. To-day we are reminded of the want of any special distinctions in the nature of Medals or other high honours in our Professional Faculties. It may be true that

such inducements are less needed in these Faculties than in Arts; but they would, without doubt, by attaching a mark of honour to the names of our best men, lead to a higher general proficiency among the others. A larger work, worthy the combined efforts of the medical graduates, would be the erection of a suitable building, fitted with all the appliances of modern science, for our Medical Faculty. The college is at present unable to do this; but it should be within the reach of three hundred medical graduates and those who have been benefited by their labours. It would be no very great matter for the graduates in law to obtain an endowment for one of our Law Chairs, or to secure for the University the valuable library of the late lamented Chief Justice of Lower Canada.

Not to weary you with such suggestions, I have only further to say, that one subject meriting your most earnest attention, as associated alumni of this University, is the reform of the present educational laws of Lower Canada, as relating to professional and academical education. No one who has occasion to study these, can fail to be convinced that they are in many respects discreditable to our age and country, and that they tend in some important points to the discouragement of the higher education. Not only is this the case, but there seem to be influences ever and anon appearing in Parliament, which would still further diminish the privileges of university graduates, and lower the standard of professional and general education. This is a question which must be fought out by the educated men of Lower Canada; and I earnestly invite to it the attention of our associated graduates.

In conclusion, I would say that those of us who are officially connected with the University, look to its graduates as those who must sustain it after we are gone; for if they neglect it how can we expect its interests to receive attention from those who have not enjoyed its benefits. We shall therefore hail with sincere pleasure every effort on behalf of our graduates to acquire and sustain that influence for good which they should exercise in the affairs of the University.

The CHAIRMAN having thanked the friends of the University for their attendance and countenance, called on the Reverend Professor CORNISH to pronounce the Benediction, and therewith the proceedings of Convocation were closed.