

*Journal of the Medical School of Kingston*

# Retrospect of Fifty Years

OF THE

## MEDICAL SCHOOL OF KINGSTON

From its Foundation in November, 1854, until the  
First of January, 1905,

BY

MICHAEL SULLIVAN, M.D.,

For the past 38 years Professor of Principles and Practice of Surgery  
(formerly of Anatomy) who as Student and Teacher  
witnessed and took an active part  
in the events recorded.

1905

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Chancellor J. D. Sandford  
Stemmer & - the mere eyes  
of his loyal followers  
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## A BRIEF REVIEW OF KINGSTON MEDICAL COLLEGE.

On the 15th December, 1904, my duties as Professor of Surgery in the Medical College terminated. Some time after a reporter of the *News* requested me to write for his paper an epitome of my career as student or teacher in the Medical College here, and the progress of surgery, in the life of that institution, a period of fifty years.

### REASONS FOR CONSENT.

I hesitated to assume so arduous a task, but reflection convinced me that it was more than to please the all-powerful newspaper or "to see one's name in print." There were other reasons which appealed so strongly to me as to be an obligation. I recalled occasions when as a member of the Historical Society we often lamented the supineness, so general, which caused so many more or less important events to fall into oblivion, solely for want of a written record. This appealed forcibly to me, for on enquiry I found, singular to say, that there are no records or minutes of meetings, that I could consult, in existence, hence the greater need of relating events which if unnoticed would be forgotten. Strongest of all, I am the only one living to-day of that small band which in the hour of crisis came to the rescue and by the most heroic efforts saved the Medical College to this city and country. It was therefore an obligation on me to perpetuate the generous self-sacrifice, the virtuous and loyal attachment of these men to this city and to their profession, whose only reward was the pleasure of doing good. I resolved to make an attempt to give a brief narrative of what I witnessed and took part in.

### WHO ORIGINATED THE SCHOOL.

In going over this very brief history of the Medical School of this city, now so flourishing, and I may say in ratio profitable to all concerned, I have no positive information who was the first to move in the matter. Why it is so I do not know. I always suspected Dr. Douglas, a former graduate in Arts, because the first detachment were all fourth year men and all from Trinity School. All will acknowledge it was a bold—almost a rash enterprise. The size of Kingston, the capacity of the Hospitals and the number of qualified men, were all unfavorable. Moreover, there was no urgent demand for it; the larger cities, Quebec, Montreal and Toronto, had Schools well equipped and would certainly not give the least encouragement, and they did not, but the contrary.

GREAT PROFITS TO THE CITY.

There was no money, for the fees were small and each Professor must mind his practice and was obliged to study to appear with any acceptance before a class—the most severe critics a man could have, fourth year students.

It has been a profitable institution for the city and has brought more honour, more prestige, than any other enterprise. It has been the same to the University. None have given more cheerfully than the Medical students. It is now a valuable asset of Queen's and for the last half century has been a generous contributor to its funds.

Another benefit not pointed out is that a regiment of young men of slender income in this City and County have been enabled to qualify for a profession which has given them the power to attain a position of honour, of social distinction and emolument they could not possibly attain were it not established. All honour, then, to the small but noble band of men who gave their time, their means and labour, to make it a success. Of course it could not be such by any other means than by its work, as the Examination by the Universities, as is more apparent by the Medical Council, testify. When it began the Hospitals were in a very inferior condition.

CHOICE OF VOCATION.

“There is a divinity which shapes our ends,  
Rough hew them how we will.”

Never was a more convincing proof given of the truth of that trite quotation than in my vocation to the high position of physician. I had not a remote idea of such, never saw the inside of an hospital, did not know a student or doctor, in fact any feeling I had was one of repugnance, and such were my feelings until 1854, when as a pupil at Mr. O'Donnell's Classical School, a tall gentleman, the late Dr. Burdette of Belleville, came there to obtain the necessary Greek and Latin (a small amount of each) to pass his matriculation at Trinity, although then in his fourth year.

I spent very much of my time with the warm-hearted doctor, assisting him to quench his thirst at the waters of Helicon, while he in turn poured into my attentive ear vivid descriptions of the machinery of different organs, the marvelous design, the surpassing beauty of structure, the grandeur of the science to which all others were tributary, and urged me to begin at once the study.

THE DIVINITY ACTS.

Critically not more than a few weeks after the departure of my genial friend, while I was still under the influence of his enthusiasm, I was surprised to learn that the votaries of Hygeia had dedicated a temple and opened a school for her pupils. My curiosity was at once awakened and I resolved to find it. Let me say that as an

earnest student of Latin and Greek I held in respect the deities of Olympus as Iove, Minerva, Juno, &c., and had read of the magnificent temples and statues which were the noblest efforts of the immortal genius of Greece and Rome.

#### THE TEMPLE TO HYGEIA.

So with much eagerness to see this temple, I found it after a short search, and to my surprise it was on Princess Street, in an old building recently modernized by Elliott Bros., and now dedicated to Vulcan. In my early recollection it was a private hotel, then the hospital for the Royal Artillery until they were called home. It had passed all these phases without one cent being spent on repairs or any improvements. When the votaries received it no change was made. They had too much respect for the ancient and they were too impecunious to even pay for cleaning it up or fumigating it, but as there were no bacteria then in Kingston it did not matter much. A more dilapidated or neglected, broken-down, old temple did not exist. The only sign of dignity that one might think of was a flight of stone steps with iron hand-rails leading to a small hall door half way between the curbstone and the roof.

Well, I felt, surely the interior will compensate for such a mean exterior, so I determined to enter, and such a dusty, uncared-for, old ramshackle place I never saw. The attending devotees, twelve in number, had no studious or dignified manner, on the contrary, they were jolly, familiar, friendly—they smoked and chatted freely.

#### THE NATAL DAY.

I have often thought that the day on which the School was born probably is a date on which more great events are commemorated than any other—the 5th of November. My information is that the School was opened on that day. Singularly, the famous battle of the Crimean war with Russia may have been at its hottest the same hour this auspicious event I am recording was taking place on Princess Street, the 5th of November, where John, Pat and Sandy were the generals commandin', victorious.

With such gloomy feelings I made my first visit to a Hospital. I saw there a raw sore called an ulcer, on a poor man's leg.

The cup of my resignation overflowed, and I came away disgusted, fully satisfied I could not persevere. I wished I had never seen Burdette and resolved the following spring to say farewell to Hygeia forever.

While willing to accept any humiliation for my release, still the dread of being considered cowardly or unmanly made me observe silence.

The decision of my occupation in life was a source only made positive after some hard trials. I was a very verdant youth. There was not another Freshman, all were Seniors reading for the fourth year. I was alone, there was no reception room. I was forced to pass most of my time in the dissecting room, a most unattractive, dreary place, with rickety windows and high stools, a skeleton and gaudy-colored maps of different positions of the body as decorations. The plates when the wind howled through the windows flapped against the walls and made me jump from my effort of trying to pack my memory with the Dublin Dissector.

I mention all this to show what an ordeal I was forced to pass through, such as I am sure no medical before or since had any idea of. I became after some weeks daily of this mode of living so dejected and forlorn looking that I was considered at home to be studying too hard. But the sharp-eyed Seniors soon divined the reason, and from them I received very kind advice and sympathy, the first and most marked example of that generous altruism and attribute of the medical student, which was one of the causes of dispelling the ignorant, foolish prejudices I entertained against the noblest of studies. Of course all the variety I had in my punishment was to look at the dissections and ask some questions. I felt some attraction to these, particularly to those of Mr. Hillier, who prepared the material for Stewart's lectures. He explained to me as he worked the functions of each, causing a change so great that before three months I became so attached and so attracted to this science, that when the session closed I was sorry, and from that time to the present the cultivation of anatomy has never diminished, and my greatest periods of enjoyment and satisfaction were those occupied in the study of this branch.

So ended the ordeal and not even a misgiving entered my mind again, as to the occupation I was to spend my life in. Anatomy having had so strong an influence on that decision I think I may as a matter of interest mention a few of the men I have met in my time who by their excellence may be called Artists in Anatomy. There are only three, and all are long since deceased, who impressed me by the accuracy and neatness of their dissections. They were Drs. Lizars, Hillier, and J. O'Sullivan. The first I only observed on a few occasions, but enough to prove his title. The second I watched daily for a full session, as he prepared Dr. Stewart's material—the poor fellow died soon after graduating in 1855, and thus prevented his friends from realizing the idea all had of his obtaining fame in Surgery. His brother, an old friend, is a well-known physician of Bowmanville. The third graduated here in 1868, from the Royal, an old pupil and friend of mine, Dr. J. O'Sullivan, a man whose Surgical and general reputation is still fresh and green in Peterborough and

Central Ontario. I can safely challenge all Canada to show a career in Medicine equal to his, the rapidity with which he acquired by honorable means the high position and the large income. I mention him because he can attribute all his success to his knowledge of Practical Anatomy. At my request he prepared two accurate dissections of an upper and lower limb and exhibited them at the Provincial Fair the year after he graduated. I never heard of any other similar exhibit. They attracted much and special attention. And here let me say that for forty-six years I have worked unremittingly to make this College in Kingston renowned for the cultivation of Practical Anatomy. On any other subdivision there was and can be none but a limited field. Here, therefore, as any one who has any experience can see, it is the one subject which demands attention and steady work, and which cannot be of any value unless acquired practically and by the labour and talents of the student. Furthermore, it has always been a guarantee of the future success in practice of the general physician. Time has only confirmed this opinion in no vain boasting, but in sober truth I have honestly done my best, and I think the Ontario Profession will say I have succeeded.

The second session was ushered in with encouragement. We had quite a numerous body of First Year or Freshmen, who came from widely separated parts of the country. Two important events worthy of record are: First, our College was put on a level with the oldest by an annual grant of one thousand dollars. The second was the removal of our household gods from the temple to the large and picturesque chateau, known as "The Archdeacon's," as it had been the residence of that generous and popular member of the historic family of Stuart. One thousand dollars per annum from the public purse was a generous gift for those days. Some were so irreverent as to think that this grant had some influence on the action of the Executive of the University, asking us to evacuate the temple and transfer our school to this beautiful abode. However, be that as it may, the thousand dollars voted annually was taken and applied to her own purposes. I will show later what happened when it was stopped twelve years after and Queen's had absorbed all. I only wish any reader of this to note that it was not applied wholly or solely to the purchase of much-needed apparatus and equipment. At no time in the life of the School was there such an absence of the aids then used in teaching, the essentials I mean, as during the twelve years the School was voted annually one thousand dollars. I would be ashamed to name the common appliances it had not.

The third session opened with a greater rate of attendance. Just prior to it Dr. Williamson resigned and Stewart went in haste to New York, where with the aid of Prof. Doremus, he secured the

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best Lecturer on Practical Chemistry the College ever had, Dr. Adolf Wirtz, a very scientific young German, who could only remain one session.

Dr. Stewart visits Edinburgh.—Before the fourth session it was necessary to secure a Professor of Chemistry, and also one on Botany for the Arts course. Stewart was again sent to his Alma Mater and went off with great importance. He declared he would bring a man from "Auld Reekie" who would do for Queen's what Dr. Dawson had done for McGill. He returned with Dr. Lawson, a man of scientific fame, a much better Botanist than Chemist. He taught the medicals Chemistry. His unvarying kindness soon made him the most popular of the Professors. Unable to pay him, he went to Dalhousie, N.B., about the time of separation from Queen's. He was the founder of the Royal Botanical Society of Canada, on the same lines as its prototype in Edinburgh. Some of its Fellows are still residing here. Its meetings were very interesting and attractive chiefly owing to its learned President, Dr. Leitch, the Principal, for whom I had the highest respect. He became Principal at a bad time. A man of his character and learning, he was not understood. A stranger he was too proud to ask any aid, which I always felt hastened his death. I knew nothing of his learning as an eminent divine of his Church, but I often had the pleasure of listening to his interesting addresses on a variety of scientific subjects. His literary gifts were varied and rare. Presiding at a meeting of a learned society, reading a paper, after discussion summing up, or in conversation, he was very attractive, on all occasions a courteous, accomplished gentleman.

#### FACULTY.

The men who composed the first Faculty were, with one or two exceptions, graduates of British Universities, equal to any that Upper Canada could produce at that date. They were Drs. James Sampson, F. Fowler, John R. Dickson, Horatio Yates, George Baker, Jas. Williamson, and John Stewart, Secretary.

It was legal then for one Professor to have more than one subject. Stewart had three, and most important ones they were, and he never gave a lecture at all. Clinics were given by Professor of Surgery and Medicine, Botany by Dr. Fowler. Jurisprudence was not given until the second session, when the Surgeon of the 9th Regiment, just from the Crimea, delivered the first. Dr. Litchfield, first Superintendent of Rockwood, was the first Lecturer, a polished, courtly Englishman. I never had an interview or any talk with Dr. Baker. Dr. Sampson was a Surgeon then of the highest rank, a well-educated, sound, common-sense Irishman of brilliant wit and scholarly habits. He was a favorite with all classes. It was a plea-

sure to call in Sampson for consultation. His opinions were candid and honest, and only given after hearing with attention the attendants' history and opinion. He never took any credit or advantage from consultations. On account of his age and pressing professional duties, he would not accept any special chair, although endowed with all the learning and experience to surpass any of his confreres. His sound common-sense, perception of disease, long experience, and bright, happy manner, could not fail to make a sterling character.

I must not forget the man the most in evidence of any of the Professors of the first faculty. John Stewart, Surgeon, as in accord with British custom he liked to be designated, a tall, fine-looking gentleman, a graduate of Edinburgh. He controled everything; no one questioned his power. He was well educated and had the reputation of being a good Surgeon, and might have had a large clientele if he had not been so disposed to quarrel. He seemed to love a fight, not according to the manly art code, but with tongue and pen. His figure was familiar to every citizen, for when a fight was on to keep the belligerent flame bright he donned his brilliant tartans—Royal Stuart. I have said he fought with tongue and pen. These were rendered powerful by the ammunition—he was a past-master of vituperation, ridicule and sarcasm. These he could use all at once, for example, Dr. Hall, Editor of the powerful British-American Medical Journal, and Professor of Obstetrics in McGill, noticed the birth of the Medical College here and criticized it adversely, just what Stewart wanted. He issued a reply a broadside of the three which effectually silenced Hall, who never returned the fire. Albeit, Hall had been a fellow-student of his at Edinburgh. Peace to his ash-s. He was loyal to his School; it was to him as his home, the students as his children. His pupils speak of him with regard, and hold his memory in honour.

#### CALM OF FIVE YEARS.

For the five years succeeding my graduation a flowing tide of advance and prosperity prevailed. There were no rules, the unwritten laws which govern the conduct of gentlemen to each other were quite sufficient to maintain order, and each man felt as in a joint stock company, that unless every Professor believed that on him the honour and existence of the College depended, it could not flourish.

The Faculty was as good as could be organized in Montreal or Toronto, man for man, but we were making an experiment never before attempted, therefore vigilance, steady vigilance, was the price of success. Had there been any Dean, failure might have resulted. It was a pure democracy, where liberty and equality produced fraternity and unity, resulting in peace, progress and great increase of students.

GREAT CRISIS.

Alas, who can control Fate? A squall was coming, destined to cause disaster, a crisis important in this history impending, therefore I wish to remind any reader of this crude writing that it is simply a narrative of events occurring in consecutive order which I took part in, and I declare on honour that I have no antipathy to any one named, and I will be glad to make correction and apology for any inaccurate statement shown to me. I want to do justice to the memory of my absent colleagues, to state nothing which they would not cheerfully corroborate. I take nothing on heresy or rumour, resolved to have this at least a statement of unquestionable veracity.

Probably I have given too much attention to individuals in writing this epitome, but when I thought of the hundreds of students through the country who are cognizant of these events and who knew very well every man mentioned and the events alluded to they will agree with me that it was a duty to all that I should notice these and afford some small tribute of recognition to the memory of those who in their day gave loyal and faithful service.

VERACITY OF RECORD.

Satisfied if that quality be wanting, I challenge therefore any one who has any doubts of my sincerity and accuracy of statement.

As I said, peace and prosperity marked the career of the College from its birth to the advent of Confederation. That period was hailed by the people of Ontario with joy and acclamation; to Queen's it was the herald of trials and events of adverse fortune, unlooked for and uncontrollable. Its career for the twelve years prior to the natal day of the Dominion had been on a flowing tide of prosperity, progress and expansion.

The University had been in friendly alliance and had prospered from 1854, the tide of success to both was for twelve years or more uninterrupted, was now to stop, and worse, to change to an ebbing tide of severe blows from uncontrollable and unlooked-for quarters, which no amount of courage and skill could avert.

THE FIRST PREMIER GIVES SECOND STROKE.

The wisdom of the statesmen of Canada prior to Confederation was shown in granting from the public money a comparatively small bonus annually to educational institutions. It was of the greatest benefit and by Queen's was administered with wisdom and judgment. I never heard of any complaint against it from any quarter. Now, anyone would imagine it was in fact the duty of a wise statesman or even politician to continue them at least for a

time. Not so, thought Mr. Sandfield Macdonald, first Premier of the great leading Province of Ontario, who had no sooner obtained power than he announced that these grants would no longer than one year more be continued, and what makes his action so small and parsimonious is that it was entirely uncalled for. He had then an overflowing treasury, already a surplus of millions, when he sent forth the edict. Such a paltry, picayune policy, the manly, fair-minded, chivalrous electorate of this great Province showed their contempt for any sordid hoarding of public money in so rich a land. The ignoble conduct of the Government, whether for this or as a post hoc, the Premier and his followers, I considered, one of them received a lesson in the purgatorial punishment inflicted on them at the following general election.

LOSS OF ENDOWMENT.

Equally uncontrollable and unforeseen was the occurrence in close proximity to the other, viz., the failure of the Commercial Bank, by which a large portion of the Endowment was swept away. Crippled by the one, the other was paralyzing and would have caused permanent suspension had there not been a cautious, clear-headed Scotchman at the wheel, a vigilant and wise Principal. Dr. Snodgrass was, and had he not been in command it might have been fatal. As was his duty, he took in sail, double reef, and fastened down hatches to avoid any risk. I felt then as now that he made a great mistake which, while doing no good, would have been a great calamity to both the City and University. Am I not right, has the College not been the pride of Kingston?

I am not in the confidence of the Privy Council of Queen's. I only speak of what I think are the true causes which induced the University to sever the tie, the loss of the one thousand dollars yearly, the Faculty could never make good, nor be able to pay but a small rent, as they had no revenue but fees.

The Medical building and its small equipment were the only assets for the \$12,000 granted by Government. Rigid economy, the careful pruning or lopping off of every branch or limb not required, the loss of the Government grant, as well as the necessity of taking the Medical building for their own use, were in my opinion the causes. I cannot think of any other. Be that as it may, the strenuous exertions of Principal Grant to regain what his predecessors cut off is enough to prove that a huge mistake was made and very little faith was held in a prosperous future. The decree went forth to cut the moorings of the Medical College and it was adrift. I must mention another fact, creditable to Dr. Snodgrass. He did not hesitate but assisted by the eloquent and popular Professor of Classics, her first graduate, called on the friends of the University for aid and returned with the sum of \$100,000.

Surveying the life of the School anyone can see that it had not found an Alma Mater in Queen's. The best time to test maternal solicitude is in the period of infancy and childhood. We see that as soon as the infant received a grant of \$1,000 annually she was very kind and for twelve years made the outsiders believe how fond she was of her infant. When in its twelfth year a cruel guardian took away this income its mother at once put it out to look after itself or perish. Then when another friend, seeing what a terrible mistake Alma Mater had made, picked up the boy, then grown to manhood and has him still, adding to the power and influence of dear Alma, who says she will never part with him again? My estimation of the conduct and character of the learned Principal Snodgrass has been honestly given, but any of his best friends will admit that it was insane economy; to lop off such a branch as the Medical School, full of health and vigour, was suicidal, a huge mistake which took all the genius of the illustrious Grant many years to correct. It is necessary that the University's conduct must be examined and judgment be influenced by effects as well as by motives, and I am sure that no one who will examine the simple record after giving due credit to a policy of rigid economy will hesitate to say that the University in casting off the alliance, a prosperous and a fruitful one, as time has shown, when the first cloud of adversity came, did commit a huge mistake.

Every one who is familiar with the history of our Medical School or who will consider the principal events in its progress will at once say that the separation was the most critical, most trying and perilous period in its life; they will say it was not because of any depression or dispute or suspended animation, it was the sure, the inevitable extinction of the School. Now very few are aware of the causes. I have taken the trouble to give the causes, so far as I know, or could ascertain. If there are any others they are not known to me. I only give the facts and I do so not to criticize or censure anyone, but to perform a duty to all concerned, particularly because honour, truth and duty compel me, as the last, the only survivor of that small band who, in the hour of crisis and danger, when all seemed hopeless, and an institution, prosperous and progressive, about to end in such an ignoble manner.

The task, voluntarily undertaken by a few men, was an arduous one, to found or create a Medical College capable of doing as good work, of standing the same tests as Toronto or Montreal; an ordeal which demanded a self-sacrifice and determined perseverance, with no remission nor hope of any pecuniary reward or emolument or any personal prestige or honour, a life or death-struggle.

KINGSTON'S BEST FRIEND.

Think of a city the size and same population as Kingston which had only six men of the experience and learning of lecturers of the first rank on their own subject, think of these, I say, entering into competition with such and succeeding. Let anyone reflect and they will see it has been a generous contributor, intellectually, morally, socially, scientifically and commercially. What a continuous flow of gifts it has given to this good city during the past forty years, and how much more will it continue to give for the years to come?

MOTIVES.

As to the influences which dictated prompt and bold efforts, I may give those which acted on myself. To save the College from the sure fate of final extinction, the result of non-intervention to restore it, revived and refreshed that it might continue on its mission of beneficence of civilization and humanity. Surely no better or higher motives can influence men to do noble deeds. They knew the great difficulties to be grappled with.

They disliked as I did to see an institution to which we had become attached, on which so much time and labour had been expended, come to such a sudden death while in the vigour of youth and health. The test of success had been made. Was the medical profession of Kingston to demonstrate by inaction their incapacity to keep up the Medical School? We believed that it was destined to be and would be the coping of the educational system of Kingston.

The equipment so many years in use was of very inferior quality. It could be of no possible use to any but a medical school. Although it was nominally Queen's, morally, I think, it belonged to those who had earned it. The Principal put a cash value on each article. Poverty and haste compelled us to accept. Now I mention this to show that not one cent's value passed to the Royal, and that the men who came to the rescue, who averted certain extinction, and who saved the school to the advantage of "town and gown," deserve some honour for the great work done which has never been noticed by the beneficiaries.

TO THE RESCUE.

They were not ignorant that a phenomenal effort must be made; they must have united action as of one; to do it was much more than to begin anew. Such was the condition of things at the time. A new College must be created, equipped, and the work continued as if nothing had occurred. It must be all completed within a month, as any suspension would be fatal.

With such feelings it was easy for Dr. Fowler to secure a meeting of all the old teachers, with a few city confreres. Dr. Dickson was in the chair and in a brief, impressive manner said it was simply extinction or not; any action must be prompt as delay would be fatal. There was no dissent and without any speeches or debate they unanimously decided to continue. With wonderful celerity the Faculty was reorganized. Those who wished to retain the chairs they had in Queen's did so, and any vacancies were filled. Dr. Dickson was President and Dr. Fowler, Secretary-Treasurer. A charter was applied for after giving the creation a name, a singularly happy one, The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, Kingston, under which, with a calendar issued and everything complete as if nothing had happened, the new craft was launched with strong hopes and fervent aspirations from the edifice now devoted to charity as the House of Industry. The feeling among the citizens then was such as to make a Medical School an undesirable tenant. So ended the crisis. Extinction, so imminent, was avoided. Probably no better Faculty could be organized in Canada at the time; they were Kingston's best. I have said so much on this as the crisis was so acute, so forcibly impressed on my memory, and as has been seen was closely connected with my retirement as a teacher, but that would not suffice at all were it not for my desire to put on record the events to do honour where honour is due, to give the men who made so unselfish a sacrifice of time, labour and expense, and from the highest motives. The President, Dr. John R. Dickson, was a studious man, always bright and cheerful, and had evidently by severe study mastered the most obscure and tangled problems of the profession, so difficult to others.

He was the best operating surgeon in Canada and the first in this country to perform the excision of the elbow joint and also of the lower jaw. I never saw any surgeon at home or abroad who had a more supple wrist or a hand more beautiful, or of so surgical a type. The technique of his operations alone was enough to attract numbers to them. He knew anatomy very well, was cool, and neither too bold nor timid, and was a master of diagnosis. He often devised instruments and apparatus he could not get from the maker. He had the most complete and up-to-date cabinet of instruments. All the operations of any importance in hospital and outside practice in this district were performed by him. His students loved him and had implicit faith in the accuracy of his teaching.

It is but a very short time since Dr. Fowler closed his earthly career, and also his connection with the College, and if any man deserves honourable mention, it is he. It was evident from the first that he should take a leading part, for no one could be more gifted as a professor. A gold medalist of the ancient University of Aber-

deen, he came to Kingston fresh from his studies. In the Hospital or at lectures he was always listened to with attention. Few, if any, have retired from duty with so great honour, or given such faithful, devoted attention to their work.

Never absent from duty, never missing a lecture, often taking up subjects such as Botany and exacting no fee, but doing it merely to supply deficiencies, (he was the only one who could do so). Such was the character of his service. He managed all the internal economy for years, without fee; held all the money; allowed no debt. He divided any balance as he thought fair and honest, and never was an audit asked for or an account examined after passing him. He enjoyed the respect and confidence of all his colleagues, and a student was never known to grumble. He saw them all, knew them all, advised all. Such a man can only be found providentially.

Beyond any other he gave the longest, most faithful and valuable services, and must be considered the "facile princeps" of all connected with the Medical School in Kingston from its origin to his death, in fifty years' continuous service. Never did any man give more evidence of loyal attachment than Dr. Fowler.

DR. M'LEAN.

Permit me to recall another of that band whose short but brilliant career came to a close about a year ago, Dr. Donald McLean, of Detroit. He was an Arts student when I was in Medicine. He made his professional studies in Edinburgh University, and had the good fortune of being a pupil of Scotland's greatest operator and most gifted surgeon, the celebrated James Syme, then in the zenith of his fame.

McLean was just the character to be attracted and fall under the spell of Syme's daring genius. So he became and continued all his life, a worshipper of it. He had a marvellous power of making friends and retaining them.

McLean took part in the American Civil War, and there served under a doctor from Michigan, a surgeon, who recommended him for the position of Professor of Surgery at the State University. He left us after some years to go there, where he would have become the most famous surgeon in the United States, had not an unavoidable, adverse Fate pursued him.

There were other men in that Faculty worthy of being mentioned, if only as illustrative of the humane and charitable features of the profession in those days. Dr. Yates, for example, who was the most popular physician in the city, and had a practice which, according to the present tariff, would be worth \$15,000 yearly. He was Professor of Practice of Medicine.



Dr. Michael Lavell succeeded Dr. Baker, the first Professor of Obstetrics. He did good work for the College, particularly in the advent of The Royal. He had high rank as a lecturer and debater, and took a prominent part in all discussions in the Medical Council. He left to become Warden of the Penitentiary.

Dr. Litchfield, who had just come from Australia, the first Superintendent of Rockwood, a very attractive lecturer, took Legal Medicine at the same time that Dr. Lavell was on the staff.

Let me say that in writing the above I have been actuated solely by a desire to offer a small tribute of respect to the memory of noble men, as a grateful student, and an only surviving associate.

The following session, 1868-69, we removed to the only available building, now used as the City House of Industry. We were not desirable tenants, for it was generally believed that our time was mainly spent in stealing the "corpora" of our departed friends and making castor oil from the bones. This house had the honour of being the place from which the Royal College, with high hopes and fervent aspirations, was launched successfully.

#### ANOTHER TEMPLE, THE FOURTH.

The Shrine of Hygeia had already been moved three times. The fourth temple was dedicated for the second session of The Royal. In it I began my Lectures on Surgery. Dr. Fowler, always vigilant and silent, had secured the headquarters of the defunct Commercial Bank, foot of Princess Street. It had long been vacant. It came to the Government in some deal and they would sell but did not want to rent, and we purchased it for \$2,000 from the Mackenzie Government. All that was required was to pay the interest. It was a fine stone building but allowed to become dilapidated. There were so many iron doors, vaults, and heavy chains, with secret passages, that one would think it was the ante chamber to the lower regions.

#### DR. FOWLER GIVES ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR EQUIPMENT.

Before we were long there Dr. Fowler surprised all by stating that he had found a purchaser who would give three thousand dollars—a very high price. Of course the offer was jumped at, and thus one thousand dollars was made. This was a bonanza; so much money with no trouble or effort on our part.

Now, Dr. Fowler exhibited here his strict integrity and high sense of honour. Without any possible flaw or stain on his reputation he could have put that money in his pocket. I do not think this most generous action of his was ever publicly recorded before.

With this large sum to apply to the purchase of apparatus, etc., so much needed, we were afforded an opportunity to put every department in the best and most modern condition, thus completing a full equipment, rendering all the classes much more attractive and effective. The best and largest sized battery, twelve additional microscopes and surgical instruments of the most recent make. These, or the remnants of them, went over to Queen's at the transfer of 1891.

DR. DICKSON RESIGNS—URGES DR. SULLIVAN TO SUCCEED.

One month of the Session had not elapsed when to my deep regret Dr. Dickson announced his resignation of the Chair of Surgery owing to urgent business. We all felt the blow. He was undoubtedly the most gifted and influential man we had. We all felt it was a great loss until we learned that he would not leave the city, nor the College, but would give us always his counsel and aid. I had the highest respect for him. I saw his wonderful ability on many occasions tested. To me he had no faults as a surgeon or physician. He treated me as if I were an equal in any consultation, or when I sought his aid for a difficult operation, he cheerfully came to my assistance and lent me any instruments I required. His voluntarily naming me, one of the youngest, and not aspiring to such an honour, to succeed him in the most coveted and most popular chair, was indeed most generous. I had made a special study of Anatomy, had thought I had mastered it, and made some plans to do good work in it, in addition, to succeed a fluent, clear and convincing lecturer, made me say positively I would not accept. Then he urged me in the kindest manner. He said: I will give you what I will not give any other person. You can have the casts, splints, instruments, in fact anything I have. I will call and see how you are doing and be always ready to give you any help or advice. I could no longer refuse, so in the Fall of 1868 to my regret I was installed in what is generally considered in most colleges the most enviable and attractive chair, Principles and Practice of Surgery, and from that day until Wednesday, the 14th December, 1904, the day of my last lecture, I have occupied the position every session, except one, due to severe illness.

ONTARIO MEDICAL COUNCIL FOUNDED.

An event most important to the medical profession of Ontario, and which had a more powerful influence on the Medical School here than any other event since its birth, was the formation of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, in which is vested the power to admit any to practice in Ontario, by an examination.

This was organized at London in 1865, with Dr. Dickson, of Kingston, as its first President.

This measure, so long fought for, after years of such bitter feeling as prevented any agreement being come to and in which I took part, concluded, by a compromise between the so-called Allopaths, Homeopaths, Hydropaths, and Eclectics, any of which had the right to license and clung to this power with tenacity. Farewell to any advance if this continued.

So it was agreed that each would surrender its right and they did so on condition that a representative body, called the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, should have the sole power to license, which would take in all the "paths" or vested rights. It has control of medical education subject to the approval of the Provincial Government. The only fault is that it only applies to one province. It is hoped this will be extended to all Canada by Dr. Roddick's Bill. A hot contest followed with the universities, who were deprived of this power and threatened to boycott the Council.

Having been a member of the representative bodies for some years previous, which had brought about the compromise of the Ontario Council, I knew such threats were impotent and could not be sustained. As I was the only member of our Faculty who opposed this boycott, I had hard work to induce six students selected as equal to any average or even honour students of other colleges, to present themselves for examination.

#### THE TEST MADE WITH SUCCESS.

This little band which was to make or mar my reputation were men who afterwards attained the highest rank. One was the late Dr. Moore, of Brockville, known so well to all; Dr. Hodge, of London, esteemed by all who know him, the honoured Dean of the Faculty of the Western University, and another, Dr. Thornton, of Consecon, the oldest and most valued member of the present Medical Council.

All passed without a stop and made a very favorable impression on the examiners and did great honour to their school. The students felt confidence in their teachers and a security that they were able to compete with other schools.

After this no more objection was urged to students taking it, and the safe passing of the students of the Royal gave fame to the school.

#### REVIEW OF ANATOMY.

Without the slightest desire to boast or complain of any neglect albeit having good grounds for both, but as a recorder of events, I

will now mention a few interesting facts in connection with my work as Examiner, which can be judged on its merits and by results, which after securing recognition, honour and fame for the School, and while doing that did a duty due to the profession by doing it to the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario. It took a long time to do me justice. What a sad reflection it is to recall ingratitude. It was all I received for the greatest amount of labour, anxiety and risk of personal injury that was possible for any man to bear.

Let me say that any one who may be inclined to believe I am exaggerating any circumstance take the trouble to consult the Registrar of the Medical Council at Toronto, who is the only one convenient, fully cognizant of these details.

I was the first examiner of oral and written examinations for the Council on Anatomy. It was soon apparent to me that I held the best hand. Matters went on smoothly for a few years. It was only the calm which precedes a storm. While in the position I had an opportunity to see the relative merits of the different schools of Toronto, Montreal and Kingston.

#### DETECTS DEFECTS.

In doing so I found that a great discrepancy existed between written and oral examinations, and I came to the conclusion that Practical Anatomy was not attended to.

Now every examiner or lecturer knows that a student may pass a brilliant written examination and know very little when tested on the recient subject, and that such knowledge will easily be forgotten. Only by dissection and diligent attendance in the dissecting room can the foundation of the Science and Art of Medicine be laid surely. A man might as well get a manual or epitome to enable him to run a locomotive or repair a watch as to do any surgical work on the direction of a book or lecturer.

Very beautiful, well and fully illustrated in colours was Gray's Anatomy, better now I suppose. This book, in my opinion, did much injury to the student; he need not go to the dissecting room, but cosy at home, read up, and obtain no practical benefit. All the student wants is to pass, no matter how, and as the session is closing, the cramming must be increased, so that at the close he is really well crammed, and damned also, so far as fitness for the great duties he will be called on to fulfill.

I will say no more than simply this, that to reform Medical edu-

cation, preliminary and professional, is the urgent duty of the Universities who stamp a young man with their authority as genuine and ought to see that it is so.

AN AFRICAN SUSPECTED.

Although I knew my surmises as to the condition of affairs at Toronto were correct still I wanted some evidence positive in quality to enable me to act, so I must only wait. Fortunately I had not a long time to do so.

My evidence completed, the examinations ended, I met Dr. Malloch, an old friend, a graduate in Arts of Queen's. He had just graduated M.D. at Glasgow, where he had been a pupil and assistant to Mr. Lister, Professor of Clinical Surgery in that University. I have not asked him to use his name, nor did I give him any idea of my desire. As he had aided the present venerable Lord Lister in his experiments on Antiseptics, etc., naturally I asked him about the condition of Anatomy and Surgery, without any more detail, I learned from him all that I required to convince any one that as I expected Gray had usurped the position of Practical Anatomy, and so much so that practically in both the School of Toronto, *Arcades ambo*, dissection was a lost art. I wanted no more and there and then I resolved to make a change, complete and impressive as possible. I had on honour no rivalry or jealous feelings; all I had in that way was the pleasure, that the time so long desired by me, had arrived. The Royal, young and vigorous, would now have an innings. A great opportunity was offered, and I would be a coward if I did not seize it. The plan of action I had was first to give such questions for the written which the student could not obtain answers to in Gray. But to obtain a reliable result I must if possible obtain a subject, procure a long tin case, water tight, keep it as fresh as possible, all at my own expense, not to speak of the labour, the risk and the time, but my resolution was taken and binding. I would take with me as companion to Toronto the following spring one of our departed friends if I were able to induce one to come. Now Dr. Pyne will testify to the truth of this, that it was the most superb specimen of manly form that was, or ever will be, presented to the view of the students of Little York. He presented a combination of Apollo and Hercules, and had been fatally shot by his guardian while trying to escape. Having such a perfect subject, I felt proud, certain to receive from scholarly men an enthusiastic welcome, and that my friend Malloch would also receive a share.

TROUBLE BEGINS.

Difficulties were in store, and began before I saw a student. The tin case required two men to lift it at the station, and the cover not

being water-tight, some liquid escaped, and the indignant baggage-men demanded what was in that d—n case. I smiled, until they threatened to throw it out and myself with it. The examinations were as they are now, written and oral. I gave the questions from the text-book (Ellis) and then most of them came up for an oral, and oh what consternation ensued, medallists, honor men and others in proportion. Such a slaughter of innocents was never before known. The leading papers had many letters complaining of my injustice. How did Kingston students pass? Every student's paper I examined was endorsed by me with the number of points made on each answer, with special remarks of excellence or the reverse. On these I stand or fall. Let them be examined. I often meet students now who tell me they were one of the victims, but invariably say it was needed, and is upheld to this day, thus proving the benefit it has been to the profession.

Fortunately I had left, or my scalp would be in danger. I was blamed for my daring to reject students of such high standing and charged with being partial to Kingston. So great an outcry was raised and such a storm by the rejected that through the fault of a colleague in whom I trusted and whose conduct I was not made aware of until many years after, I was asked to retire. But my plans were adhered to, and to-day I am the President of that body.

If the beneficiaries of my hard work on that occasion will examine the facts they will see that some reward is due. I never looked for any, and do not think of it now. I only call attention to it to show that the school and profession have had my services regularly during the best part of my life.

It at once placed the School in the front rank of the Colleges of Canada. Further, it gave it a reputation of the highest in anatomy, which I hope it will retain, as I always felt that it was the foundation and the best test of the excellence of a student.

#### PRACTICAL EXAMINATIONS.

By this progressive action the Kingston School secured the honour of the introduction of practical examinations first in this country, and I hope it will extend it. It was not done without great labour and study, where one had to bear all the odium of an indignant crowd of students and often run the risk of injury at their hands.

I cannot avoid saying that the value of this honour to Kingston is fully realized and acted on by the present talented occupant of that chair, Dr. Ryan, who is a strenuous and successful teacher, who

takes pride in his work and impresses his students with the power of anatomy to lay solid and deep the foundation of medicine, without which he is building on sand and will never be a surgeon.

1877.

Any friend of the University if asked the most memorable year in its history would promptly reply 1877. It undoubtedly was. It marked the beginning of a new era. It was a new one also for the Royal, but for opposite reasons. For the latter the twelve years previous were years of growth, reputation and honour. With increasing flow of students they were for Queen's years of contraction, of distress. Loss after loss, as I have said, followed, until this adversity seemed to overpower even the strong power of that Scotch endurance and dogged perseverance of its heroic garrison. But in that year was first seen a rift in the clouds which ushered in bright and sunny skies. At that time appeared in our midst the magician, a man destined to exercise an almost miraculous power in the resurrection of the University, who was to stop the tide of disaster and set flowing one of progress and expansion, one who when he saw the cramped, confined sphere of action, like a good pilot on taking the helm, boldly steered out into the stormy open, where his genius had sea room.

On the beautiful campus, as by the wand of a magician, appeared in quick succession those magnificent temples dedicated to the higher studies of Literature, Science and Art. A true camp of the Muses, now full of students who have made her name renowned through the land.

GEORGE MUNRO GRANT.

*Nomen clarum*, a name I will always utter with respect, a man whose tireless energy these stupendous works could not exhaust, which a generous altruism directed its overflow to benefit his fellowmen in other ways, teaching them to hate bumptious self-conceit, to hate hypocrisy and sham, to cultivate a cleaner and more tolerant public spirit. It was not for those splendid temples of learning that I admired him and revere his memory, but for his noble character, his many generous, humane actions which I have witnessed, for his broad, catholic views, so unexpected, so welcome at that time.

SURRENDER OF THE ROYAL.

His keen vision was not long in detecting the fatal mistake made by the lopping off of the Medical Department, and after a long siege succeeded in taking it.

Dr. Fowler and myself tried but in vain to show the dangers of surrender. The majority were young men whom the Principal had

imbued with the ideas of acquiring greater prestige, and attracting more students, which meant more fees. Such alluring and tempting promises the Principal urged with all his eloquence. They yielded, and the name and title under which so many difficulties had been surmounted, and such advance made, was changed to that it now holds.

It took some years, however, to effect the transfer, and what agreement, if any, was made, I don't know. I was too indignant to sign any then or since, because the independence of the Faculty was gone. With it went that unity of interest; that harmony and freedom of intercourse; in fact, the ownership; from being the masters and controllers they were reduced to their present condition, that of servants, having no higher or stronger tenure than temporary workmen. They can be discharged on a day's notice, and without trial. They were told what was likely to happen, and now they have a marked example. "*Ex uno, disce omnes.*"

#### ILLNESS.

In the fall of 1900 I had a long and severe illness which caused me to be absent one session. When at length the curtain rose, and I realized my position, I concluded it was a good time to retire, and was fully determined on doing so, but for the intervention of the Principal. He had shown some concern in my recovery, and as soon as I was able to sit up, called one day, and said he expected me to resume my lectures. "No," I said, "I have determined to resign. You have young men of zeal, and I have to go to Ottawa each year, and want to save you any further trouble."

I thought he was only testing my state of health, but when he came again several times, and I saw the greatness, the undoubted kindness of heart, such as I had never witnessed before, and believing in his sincerity, I put aside my resolution, and said: "I will do as you desire, but you will be responsible for my failure." "Now," he said, "the arrangement I have made is, That you will lecture until the New Year, or longer if you wish; or until the Senate meets at Ottawa, and you may take advantage of any adjournment. Then Dr. Mundell and Dr. Anglin agree to finish the course."

"What about the Faculty?" I said, "especially the men you have named."

"Oh," he replied, "that is approved of."

"They are very kind," and so it ended. I resumed lectures and was able with the consent of Dr. Mundell to finish each session until the present time. Principal Grant came to hear me and appeared much pleased.



PLOT.

But no sooner had this great man gone to his reward, and the first session after had begun than I received a letter without any signature, and also a note saying it had been signed by ten students of senior rank, complaining that they did not get the full number of lectures. It was sent to me by the Secretary of the Faculty, and without any comment. I read it to the class, as a reply, and said it was a singular thing that the Secretary should send such a letter to anyone. "But," I continued, "as there is no Principal, no Dean, and I am the oldest Professor, there is no one to refer to. However, lest there may be any possible doubt, we can settle it here. I have told you my duty to you; you are, in a case of this kind, the Judges and the Jury, and if I am unconsciously losing your attention by reason of any weakness, physical or mental, you shall judge. You may retire now, or take another day to consider any complaints made, and if any number, not even a majority, will send me your verdict (no name need be attached), I promise you I will be prompt to act as you decide. I will attend your meeting or not as you wish."

The result was that not one word more was heard of it. More than that, a senior student, said to be the author of it, before leaving with his diploma, came to me and expressed his satisfaction with my work.

I mention this in detail to show how easy it is to secure a complaint when required.

ILLUSTRATION OF GRANT'S GENIUS.

An event which requires notice in any survey of Medicine in Kingston for the past half century is the foundation of a Medical College for women by Principal Grant in 1883. This announcement would be quite enough, but it gives such an example of Principal Grant's method of meeting emergencies, of his prompt action, and clear judgment; particularly it shows he possessed that magnetism, a true sign of genius which attracts men to its service and defies fate.

In 1883 our gallant medical men thought it proper to put an end to co-education, although it is reported they have conceded much stronger prejudices since, they at that time, aided by the machinations of Trinity School, Toronto, concluded to strike; here they refused to sit on the same benches, at the same time of course, and listen to a lecture with their sisters and cousins. So co-education was doomed.

Dr. Grant met the difficulty by at once announcing the foundation of a Medical School for women with a full Faculty, and was thus able to anticipate any other, although he had not at the time

asked many of the men who were to form the new Faculty; most were from the staff of the College, accepting the double duty, for who could refuse the lion-hearted Principal any aid when called on. It is only necessary to add that good work was done for several years, until Toronto, unsolicited, generously relieved us of so much work by opening another similar College, which is said to be flourishing. It is not often we can compliment Toronto on such generous action. I may well say:

“ But oh, for the touch of a vanished hand,  
And the sound of a voice that is still.”

#### ELECTION OF DEAN.

My first and only experience in such an event had little interest for me.

There were no regular nominees representing particular opinions. The University had a veto power and its candidate must win, as he did. I gave the Government candidate a voluntary, honest support, for the reasons I give. Although looking at it in the light of subsequent events, the election was a mere formality. With the election of Dr. Connell the liberties and independence of professors seem to have vanished. The new Dean was, in my opinion, retiring and unselfish, willing to consult his Faculty, to hear complaints honestly made, to try to remove any grievance, and to exhaust every means before giving his verdict. Further, he was free from any tangle with any other professor, and from the difference in his practice unlikely to have any.

Another advantage was his physique, young and of good presence. In his official robes, he was the most stylish, and would be very attractive when Arbiter Petronius Chown arranged us for the Convocation procession.

I had very little intimacy with the learned Dean since he was a student, but never did I make such a mistaken estimate of character. I was entirely away in my opinion.

Let me remark that the Dean of every Medical School in Ontario, Manitoba, British Columbia and North-West Territories have been pupils of mine, and I have the esteemed friendship of all the rest in Canada.

#### A DISCOVERY.

I am happy to say that as a proof of the incorrectness of some parties as to my not having the vigour of former years I was enabled to leave to the School a method of teaching operative surgery original and more than compensating for the want of Clinical subjects, promising to be the most advantageous and highest honour

the School will have. It was the result of necessity, and to put a stop to repeated complaints of want of surgical operations we have Hospitals, modern, fully equipped and unsurpassed; we have general and special surgeons equal to any, but the number of patients who require surgical aid is too few, and the variety, whether by accident or disease, too limited to constitute an attractive feature. The marvellous advance of Surgery since the immortal genius of Pasteur, less than forty years ago, pointed out the true path of inquiry for the surgeon to follow, and taught the best and only effective mode of removing its defects. The progress of surgery, as is universally conceded, has far surpassed that of any other science. It has created an astonishing number of divisions of operative surgery which give to the surgeon opportunities to attain fame and distinction in a very much shorter time than the surgeon of fifty years ago. It was increased by the division of surgery into Senior and Junior, in my opinion a very bad one for the teacher and student alike, as all the Professor of Senior Surgery could do was to get up an epitome, read it to his class, and they could take it down verbatim, merely cramming for examination, although there are and were three learned Professors teaching Surgery.

EUREKA.

It will be admitted a change was needed, and a conference was held by the three Professors without any good result. It was useless to look for any means to increase the number of patients. The only remedy was to devise some substitute. There were three lectures daily by three men of experience. The difficulty was to devise a scheme which would not infringe on any.

Inquiry showed there was one method. After many anxious trials, much study and numerous consultations, I was able, in November, 1903, to say "Eureka." It is no boast to say a plan which may be called one of compensation was devised, original and effective. It does more than supply the advantages, which only a certain number receive from witnessing surgical operations.

I can only give a brief explanation here. The main feature of it is the transformation of the lecture room into an operating one, having all the appliances, tables, stands, antiseptics, etc., that are needed. Students are divided into sections of fours. One, the operator, is informed the day previous, and he appoints his assistants, each to his place and duties. Every detail must be carefully attended to and the first dressing made; each student operates in turn and thus has a special part in eight operations and operates twice himself. Everything in connection with the operations is carefully attended to. This is more than compensation for the Clinical advantages so much boasted of. Every student receives first a full course of Operative Surgery; secondly, he learns the

technique in the only true way that is peculiar to it. It removes awkwardness, gives confidence, tests and develops any inclination to surgery, it demonstrates the value of Anatomy as the handmaid of surgery.

#### IS IT DESTINY?

Is it not singular that the same person from whom emanated the design of making Anatomy the peculiar feature of this School and who with the aid of others worked long and hard to accomplish it, should after half a century be making most strenuous exertions to add another laurel to the Kingston College on the cognate subject of Surgery. When Dr. Connell was informed of it he was greatly pleased and made reference to it in the Calendar. To the students it was a boon they could not speak too highly of, and I am sure it is too valuable not to be continued. Let us hope that they will give credit to those who deserve it. These pleasing relations were not to endure. At the close of the session of 1902-03, owing to failure to attend a conference with the Royal, due to Dr. Fowler's illness and the trouble and expense of getting members here from distant localities, Queen's cast off the lines and erased the names of members from the Calendar. I have not looked to see if they were restored. Now at the close of the last session Dr. Connell demanded the restoration and the surrender of the charter and seal, in fact the transfer of the Royal to his control. I regret that the ending of this brief history must be so painful to me. My intentions were that when the Senate met at Ottawa, the date I did not then know, except that it would be after Christmas, I would resign the Chair, retaining, if agreeable, my connection by some light duty.

This simple exit was anticipated and made as ignoble as possible by the time and manner of effecting it, and the reasons given in a letter of apparent sympathy, which are really absurd—an episode which cannot be other than a reminiscence of treatment unjust, undeserved and uncalled for.

#### EXCITING CAUSE.

Without going into details, the Dean decided to regain the Royal, which had been erased by the Principal and University from the Calendar only a short time before. He consulted me and said he wanted to use the Fellowship. I was surprised and put off the consideration of it. During the summer he made strenuous and persistent efforts to secure its control, finishing by allowing to be sent to me at Ottawa by a Professor a letter stating if I did not come to a meeting to arrange to change the possession "my interests would suffer." I had and could have no interest in thwarting his views, on the contrary, I was most desirous of helping him in every way, as he knows, and had I consulted my own feelings he would not have been delayed. I made up my mind from his manner, the unusual and

varied means employed, the determined stand he took, that he was not going to allow my postponing the matter or refusal to meet his views to pass into oblivion. I felt so soon as an opportunity offered he would strike, and with all the force he could. It is only right to state that I offered to aid him in giving all the benefits or powers the Royal had to further his schemes in any honourable way, provided he did not for the present demand the full possession of Charter, Seal, Books, etc. This was promptly declined. Now I was not in a position to do this without sacrificing duty and honour. Let anyone judge. I have given the full history of the Royal College up to near the period of Dr. Fowler's death. He was the custodian of the titles of the corporation—he handed them to me as a trust; what right had I to give it away? The families of the men who founded the Royal were entitled to consideration. They should be consulted. No money was ever paid in the transfer—that ought to be settled. It was not in my power to hand it over; none of the other members of the Corporation were agreeable. I did not have time to ask Fellows or Licentiates their opinions, and any I did were not in favor of it. What about the Charter? It cost something; and what about the appliances worth several hundred dollars, and how much was the franchise worth? There was not a word about one of these matters. I knew very well that when the Dean was in possession there was no more use for me, although that was not thought of by me at the time. I had to suffer, but I did as justice dictated. It is, however, a sad reflection that this was to be my reward for an act of unselfish character in the firm belief of doing what was just and right, which duty and honour made imperative. I have briefly given the evidence, and any impartial mind will, I am satisfied, agree with me. Look at the matter any way I would there was no honourable way that I could do my duty and comply with the learned Dean's request, so I in the face of all the threats refused. To explain my conduct was the reason of giving so much detail, to show the real, the true cause of the Dean's sending me a letter through a friend intimating his desire that I should retire. I was surprised, as he must have known the Senate opened on the 11th January and that would be the time to notify me. In view of the fact that we parted with the most fraternal affection at the close of the last Session, and the facts I have detailed occurring through the summer, together with the threat, makes the conclusion inevitable to any impartial examiner what the true cause was. If he had stated facts this statement would never have been written. No sooner had I commenced my duties this Session than I realized that a storm was approaching. Dr. Connell's demeanour was very different from what I expected. I did not think at first of any reason, but when other incidents which I need not detail, on more than three occasions, and when by uncour-

teous, arbitrary manner and language, when I saw the state of things at the lecture room, the table soiled and the appliances scattered about, when I heard false stories circulated among the students and I saw they were indifferent and entirely unlike any former session, I was convinced that the arrangements to give colour to Dr. Connell's action had been carefully considered before my first lecture, why the things which ought to be an honour and advantage were used against me recalled the fate of the eagle who

Viewed his own feather on the fatal dart,  
And winged the shaft that quivered in his heart.

#### FAREWELL TO STUDENTS.

In saying farewell to the students I do so with all my heart as is my duty. I am grateful beyond expression to all, past and present, for their favour.

In his letter the Dean is good enough to say I am popular with you, the students. I value it, whether he meant it as a compliment or used it as a sarcasm. Not one will say that in all my time I ever used any arts or means to gain popularity unworthy of the honour and the dignity of the position I occupied.

I scorn the idea and never thought of gaining popularity by any other means than such as effective work might bring. It has been my greatest pleasure to meet the students regularly every year, and it will be a deep regret to think I shall not do so again. They are the true indices of the merits of a Lecturer and always ready to express their opinions, and according to my experience they do not hesitate to give their estimate of a man's honesty and sincerity or fitness for his work. I never used any rules or regulations; they were not needed, never called a roll, nor ever read a lecture, never had a quarrel or any difference with a student. There is not one that I cannot meet with a smile of recognition and extend the right hand of friendship. I think every student, past or present, of mine will give me credit for an honest effort to do him justice and that I did not confine myself to merely doing this, but when and where any matter or any case that was in my power to assist him it was done cheerfully. They will recall how often I spoke with all earnestness of the great obligations imposed on them and not to think only of examinations. I could guarantee them but their future high, responsible position.

#### MODE OF TEACHING.

The plan adopted was to obtain a list of any new publications on Anatomy or Surgery. Very often a copy was sent to me from the publishers. Then if I found it contained any new theory or prac-

tice worth mentioning to note it. Thus no change or advance escaped my notice. The students were asked if the subject was not perfectly understood to bring it up at the next lecture.

To see that they understood it—not to memorize it—for examination hence, I did not encourage notes, but suggested taking a memo of any point which I emphasized. It will only be of interest to them to say that every year and often through the Session I said I wish you to understand that a mutual contract not written, but binding, each having and agreeing to do his share. It is to study and maintain the highest efficiency, to give you clear and full matter and keep abreast of my work so that no change could escape my notice and to give you the condensed meaning of the subject, so that it might be easily assimilated. You must attend regularly and pay attention, read the text-book in the evening and compare, that is if when reading you find a difference. And I declare on honour that so rigidly did I keep to the terms of the contract that not the slightest alteration was made if I had never seen or heard of Dr. Connell or a Dean or Faculty. Should this come under the notice of any student in Junior or Senior Surgery he will confer a favour I appreciate highly by calling on me at any hour of the afternoon or sending me a small memorandum of any complaint he made to anyone of my mode of lecturing, giving the Session, the subject and part if possible. It will be held strictly confidential by me, and I will not use it unless the writer will consent. I can be of no concern now to the student and I will be thankful for his candid, honest opinion.

#### THE FACULTY.

In saying this word of farewell to you, the members of the Faculty, believe me I say it with sincere regret. Our relations have been of so intimate a nature and for so long a time that the breaking off is decidedly painful, and is intensified by the circumstances attending it, of which you are aware. To leave without even a handshake is to me cold and depressing, and would to a much less sanguine temperament than mine be keenly felt, the more because it was uncalled for, undeserved and most ungrateful.

#### PERPLEXING SILENCE.

A singular feature to me, so difficult to divine the cause that I must call it perplexing, and this in the presence of a drama never acted before on any stage or likely to be again with the same cast. Was it due to the awe inspired by the sudden fulminating bolt of our Jupiter reaching its victim, or to that sadness too deep for utterance or mute disgust at such a display?

#### RIGHTS AND TITLES.

I do not claim any indulgence for length of service or any special work, simply the same as the humblest and most recently-ap-

pointed member. Well, I have no written indenture, agreement or contract. I only have the right of possession, I suppose, elegantly called a vested right.

All who knew Principal Grant, anything of his character and methods, know that his appointment of any man to a chair in any Faculty was not a light matter given through sympathy or as a mark of gratitude for gifts or services. It was nothing of the kind. He must have all the qualities which we call fitness, or capacity to do the work required. He must be a man of character, learning, disposition, experience and discipline before he classified him *dignissimus*.

I only refer to this to show that I had certain rights which could not be challenged. I had no idea at the time of obtaining recognition. My chief object was to show that I had an arrangement as strong as any contract made by Principal Grant and made in good faith and properly witnessed. Was that as it should have been recognized? It ought to be; his engagements should be upheld, at least his memory honoured.

#### TELEPATHIC ACTION.

In this connection I may mention two incidents which occurred twenty-four hours before I was shown Dr. Connell's letter by a gentleman high in University affairs. I asked one prominent Professor what rights or what tenure a Medical Professor had or could appeal to? He replied, he thought they were similar to those of a judge, but he did not know of any particular engagements. After that I was in consultation with another prominent Professor; without telling him, he gave me a similar reply. He did not know.

Singular as these incidents appeared as an example of the telepathic fad, they are given by me to place beyond any doubt the state of relations or engagements between the University and Medical Professors as given by two leading members of the staff, not knowing any more than I did that without consultation with the Faculty and without their knowledge, their own Dean, a young man comparatively, was then putting in force the highest and most serious of the functions of the University. Why he, the representative of the man to whom he was sending a notice in a most indefinite manner of imaginary defects, should assume the position of prosecutor and judge, is an anomaly I cannot understand. His position was more as a confidential adviser to the University with reference to all things medical, so that I realized, as you no doubt did when I saw his work, that he did it from their standpoint. I don't find fault with such an agent, but don't call him Dean to the Faculty.

It is singular that my questions gave me the only reliable information of any value, viz., that if there was any arrangement it must



be a secret one, and secondly, that all the high-handed actions of Dr. Connell were of his own motion and not by the counsel and approval of his Faculty, to consult whom I felt was a duty incumbent on him. I only put this before my confreres to show that twenty-four hours before the letter to a gentleman high in the management of Queen's was left at my house, which the Faculty knew nothing of, then does it not prove that unless there is a secret agreement, which I do not believe, there cannot be shown any new arrangement.

SURPRISE.

Of course I was astonished, as any one would be, to have the Dean, whose duty it was to protect and guard, as well as warn, sending me a message, I may call it, by means of a letter to a gentleman not of any Faculty in Queen's without any previous notice, the main part of which was that I was not doing justice to myself and ought to retire and he suggests the time. I was really almost stunned. What is the state of the connection? It is this: Here is a Dean exercising on one of his confreres without any notice the highest function of the University.

I was also surprised that any official should be endowed with such extraordinary power. To create a department of study, new to any Medical School, the power to dismiss, appoint, change, cancel, suspend, or any other function not named. The reader may imagine I exaggerate. Not at all. They were all exemplified this session and a very short time since.

Several questions arising from seeing so much power vested in one man, the duties of whose office were chiefly honorary, require some explanation, as well as why the University had supported Connell for Dean. Now the reasons are clear and plain; not for a single reason that a Faculty Dean was and is a favourite. It was that he was to act the very reverse of a Dean of Medicine. They wanted a man to act as confidential observer of the work done by each Professor.

In concluding this, as a matter of interest if nothing else, I will allude to the official called Dean in the School. What the duties of such an officer are, who he represents and how his functions are exercised would take a long time to discuss. Dr. Connell is the first we had and the general opinion of his duties was changed from seeing his unlimited authority a short time since in so remarkable a manner. I venture to say that there is not in Canada any man endowed with the power the University has clothed him with. Certainly I do not know of any. My opinion is that the University should have informed the Faculty. As I thought, the Dean was always the official head of the Faculty, deriving authority from them. By the acts of Dr. Connell a few weeks ago, he can can-

cel any Professor's lecture and give notice after, he can create new Chairs, retire, suspend, appoint and change as he may wish. He need give no notice of his actions or his intentions, and from his judgment there appears to be no appeal. How can any member of the Faculty have any fixity or independence? Truly Dr. Connell can use the same epigram as Louis XIV. did in the State, and with more truth, in replying to the question, Who is the Faculty?

La Faculté c'est moi.

It was difficult that I or anyone else could, unless told or witnessing an example of its action, believe that any man could be endowed by a University with such singular power. What other Dean at home or abroad has the proud position that the Dean of Queen's University has? What liberty or independence can any Professor have if Dr. C. has the power evidenced by his acts of a few weeks ago? It is not too much to say professors are like Marionettes, to be pulled up or down, this side or that, at the will of the master-showman.

Under such rule, any student who has taken a dislike to his Professor, whether justified or not, can nurse his anger and when opportunity offers pour his detraction into a willing and accessible ear.

Dr. C. to demonstrate his zeal for the School spoke at the last Convocation of his intention to found a Chair of Comparative Anatomy. I, of course, strongly supported it and expressed my views as I thought to influence the Faculty in what I believe to be a decided advantage. Now the funds to pay the Professor must be procured for he could not practice. And as no vacancy was likely to occur through death or resignation he determined to make one—some one must go. By this move he made a grand display of his varied powers. I do not for a moment object to what he did. It is none of my business. When wishing to hear the new Professor I was informed he had not commenced his course and this was his second session. Albeit he has been put in charge of the Dissecting room and the three Demonstrators passed by.

It is only right to say these are my own opinions. If the Faculty will cordially agree with the opinions and cause of their chief, which by their deep silence they appear to do, the best work can follow. A glorious opportunity Dr. C. has to distinguish his career beyond that of any other Dean.

I have no intention to bandy words with Dr. C. or provoke any discussion. The reasons which induced him to send me, through his friend, a notice that I should retire, are ridiculous and absurd. Here they are: "My Lectures lack drill and detail and there are complaints." He recommends that I get some honour at Convocation and that my picture, subscribed for by a few friends, be hung up in—he does not say where or in what style. I thank him for these evidences of his good will, yet in saying farewell it would be far

more pleasing had he shown some courteous attention himself. Any one would prefer to receive a warm hand-shake with a smile at the hall door than to leave unnoticed by the back door.

Who could imagine such a radical change would be made and no proclamation or notice be given to those most affected. What the results will be no one can tell. A great opportunity is given to the autocratic manager of the Medical Department. I feel he will work hard to accomplish his task. The University has given him a free hand.

I have too much affection for an institution which has had my humble efforts, my best thoughts for its success for the past half century, to wish it any other than complete and continuous progress. It is my earnest hope that the young man now studying to whom Fate unknown to him has given the honour to record the events and acts occurring in this Medical School from the beginning of the Connell dynasty until the Centennial, will have to write a record brilliant with achievement and discovery.

There was no Dean, none except Dr. Fowler. There were no rules or regulations; none were needed. The unwritten rules, the amenities which govern educated gentlemen, regardless of social position sufficed. Standing on a common equality and independence each man felt on his honour bound to do his share as if the life of the School rested on him, that no success could be gained without a strong pull and a pull all together. Thus was accomplished the unparalleled achievement of nursing and developing the School in a city like Kingston.

The relations of teachers was ever frank and kindly, akin to affection. A familiar intercourse with students while at College was encouraged, resulting in attachment, and manly, independent tone, never requiring a brake. Prosperity, prompt and progressive, came to the School and continued for over forty years. There is no reason why it should not continue if the same spirit animates its staff as did their predecessors, and with that good wish this narrative and valedictory concludes. It is time, for it has assumed much larger proportions than was intended. The first resolution has been adhered to, viz., to avoid any personal criticism except that based on facts. Any irregularity is due to its dependence on memory and the absence of any friendly hand to arrange the paragraphs. It must be recollected it is intended chiefly for my students, past and present, and a few professional friends. The vindication of my career and the remarks on its exit could not well be avoided. It is the last, the only opportunity, I shall have. The feeling to obtain sympathy or any notion of honour never entered my mind, knowing well that such must always be spontaneous.

In any case I have "a round, unvarnished tale delivered."

OMISSIONS.

It is unfortunate that the following paragraphs were not inserted in their proper place.

It would be absurd to give the names of graduates of each session. There are two, however, I thought worthy of notice, namely, the first (1854-55) when there were nine graduates—all of whom are dead except Dr. Herriman, father of Dr. Herriman of Rockwood.

The other (1857-58), when twelve students were capped by the Venerable Chancellor Cook—who had made their studies wholly in Kingston, the first-born of the School. They were: Drs. Benson, Evans, Hackett, Smith, Sparham and Mostyn, deceased. Two are Sheriffs, Davis of Haldimand, and Sweetland of Ottawa. The remainder, Bethune, Elmer, Henderson and Sullivan, are practicing or retired.