

Opening of the new laboratory buildings, Medical Faculty, McGill University.

Contributors

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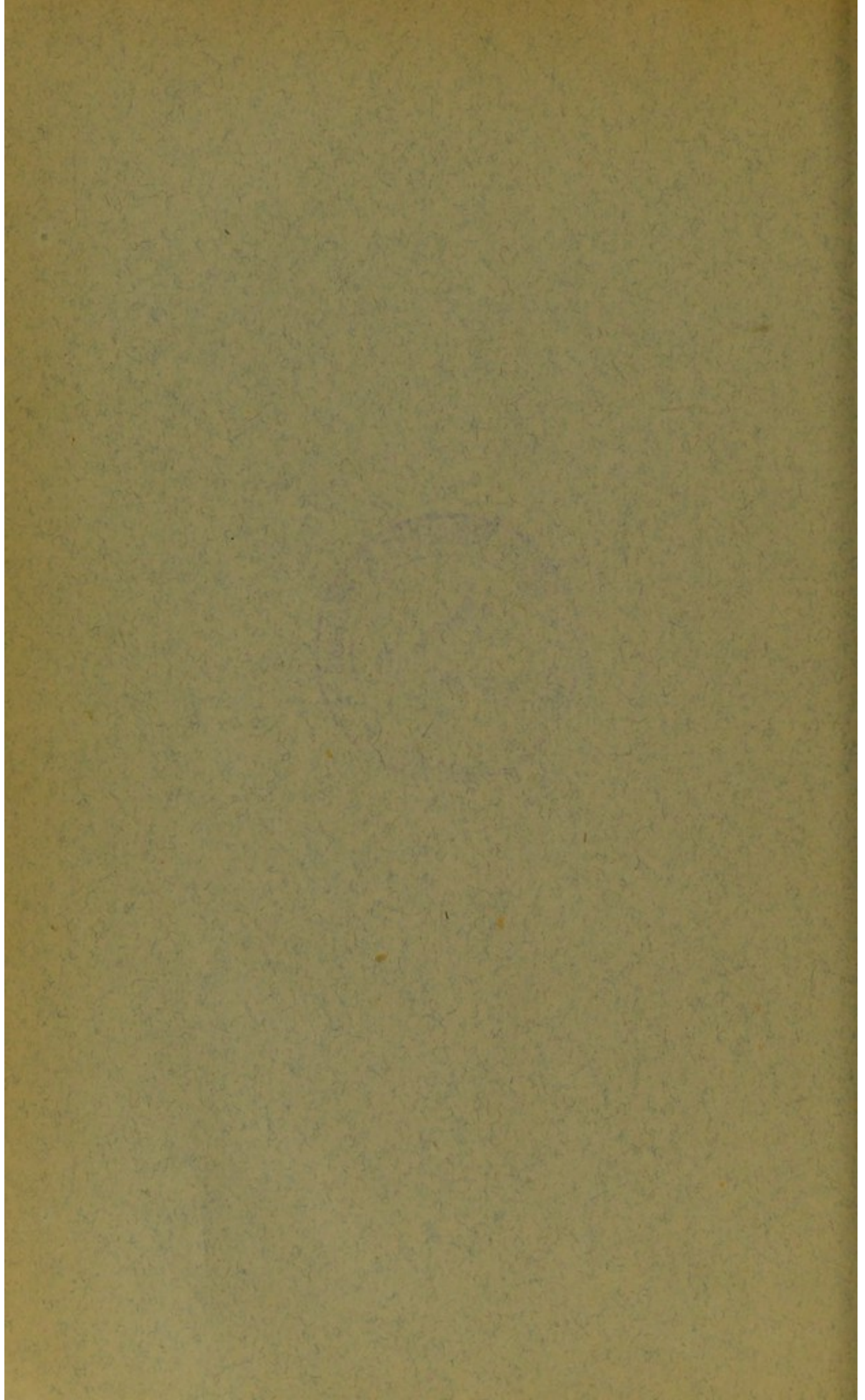


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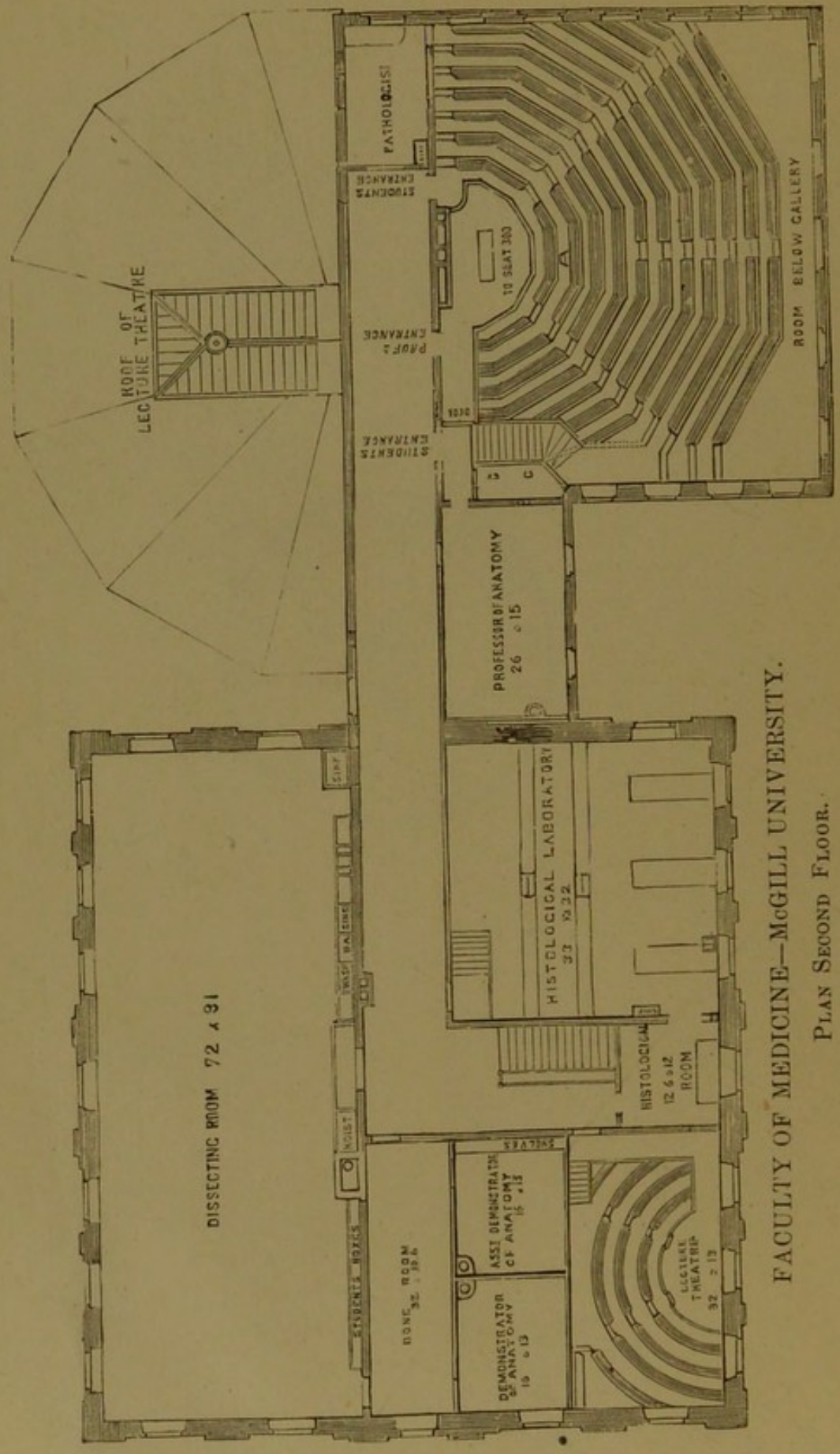
23

OPENING
OF THE
NEW LABORATORY BUILDINGS,
MEDICAL FACULTY, MCGILL UNIVERSITY.









DISSECTING ROOM 72 x 91

BONE ROOM
32 x 38

DEMONSTRATOR
OF ANATOMY
15 x 13

LECTURE
THEATRE
32 x 13

HISTOLOGICAL
ROOM
12.6 x 12

HISTOLOGICAL LABORATORY
33 x 12.2

PROFESSOR OF ANATOMY
26 x 15

PATHOLOGIST

STUDENTS
ENTRANCE

PAUSE
ENTRANCE

STUDENTS
ENTRANCE

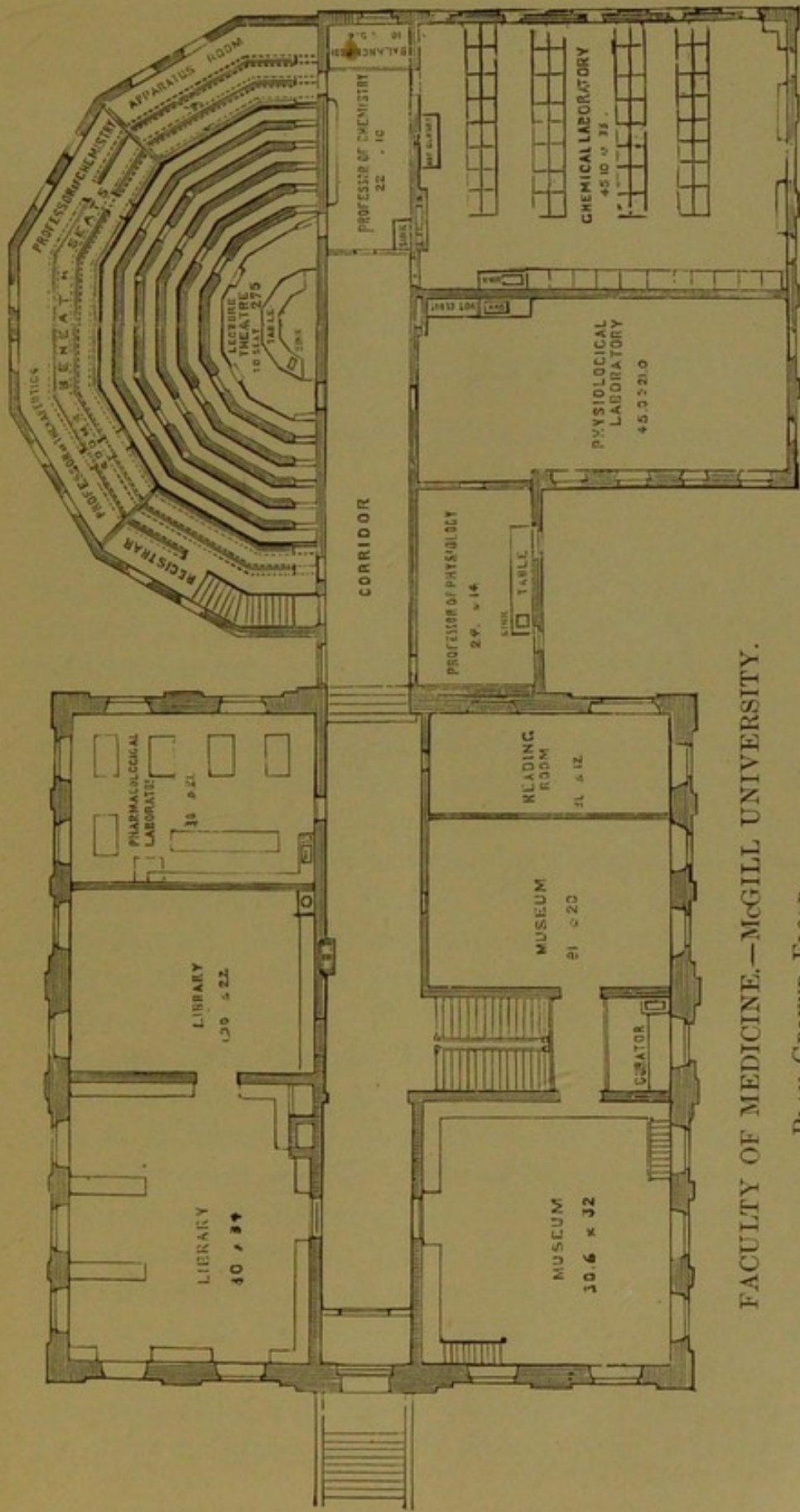
ROOM BELOW GALLERY

10 SEAT 300

ROOF OF
LECTURE THEATRE

FACULTY OF MEDICINE—MCGILL UNIVERSITY.

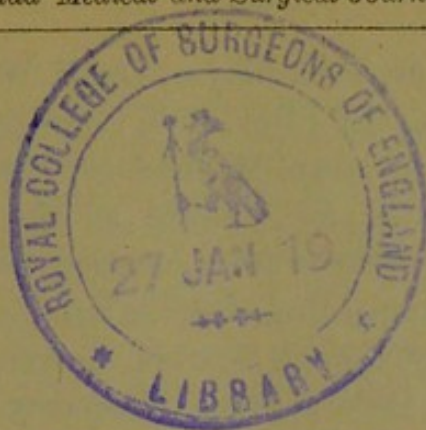
PLAN SECOND FLOOR.



FACULTY OF MEDICINE, — MCGILL UNIVERSITY.

PLAN GROUND FLOOR.





OPENING OF THE NEW LABORATORY BUILDINGS,
MEDICAL FACULTY, MCGILL UNIVERSITY.

Two months ago we gave a detailed description of the building then in course of erection for the Medical Faculty of McGill University. The work was pushed rapidly forward, and the lecture-rooms were quite complete by the 1st of October, when the session was begun. It required, however, a short time to complete the fittings, &c., of the various laboratories, and the formal opening of the building was postponed until the 22nd. At 3 p.m. a large assemblage was gathered together in the main lecture hall to listen to addresses from distinguished friends of the University and the Faculty. The Dean of the Faculty, Prof. Howard, occupied the chair, and there were present, amongst others: Provost Pepper and Prof. Osler, of the University of Pennsylvania; Sir Wm. Dawson, Principal of McGill University; Hon. Senator Ferrier, Chancellor; Hon. Justice Torrance, Hon. Justice Mackay, Hon. Donald A. Smith, Mr. John H. R. Molson, Mr. John Molson, Mr. R. A. Ramsay, Mr. Hugh McLennan, Mr. W. C. McDonald, and Mr. Geo. Hague, Governors of the University; Dr. H. Aspinwall Howe, Prof. Alex. Johnson, Rev. Dr. Cornish, Rev. Dr. Wilkes, Rev. Principal McVicar, of the Presbyterian College; Rev. Dr. Stevenson, Principal of the Congregational College; Rev. Prof. Murray, Prof. Henry T. Bovey, Dr. B. J. Harrington, Rev. Canon Henderson (Principal of the Montreal Diocesan Theological College), Dr. Grant of Ottawa, Mr. R. W. Shepherd, Dr. J. L. Leprohon,

Dr. McEachran, V.S., Prof. Moyse, Dr. F. W. Campbell, Surgeon-General Bergin, M.P., Rev. Prof. Coussirat, Rev. J. Edgar Hill, Mr. Alexander Murray, Mr. Richard White, Mr. Andrew Robertson, Dr. Rottot, &c., besides all the members of the Faculty and a body of about three hundred students.

The DEAN called upon Prof. Osler of the University of Pennsylvania to deliver the opening address. So warm is the affection entertained for Prof. Osler at McGill University that he is always sure of a hearty reception. The students greeted his appearance with prolonged cheering.

DR. OSLER said—To realize the hopes and longings of ten years, to witness the fulfilment beyond expectation of schemes which have occupied my thoughts sleeping and waking, and, finally, to participate in their consummation, is a measure of happiness not often meted out to a child of man. But such I may claim to be mine to-day as I stand here among you. It is a joy to me to stand here as an *alumnus* of McGill and witness the success which has attended the efforts of the medical faculty to extend the working powers of the school, and to express the gratitude which every member of the profession in this country must feel towards those generous men who have enabled those changes and improvements to be effected. Let us remember that the esteem in which this school is regarded by the profession and by the public is not the growth of a year or of ten years, nor is it all to be attributed to the energetic men now in charge. A large part of it is the result of that undying influence which each faithful worker has exercised. It is due in part to the spirit of those who have passed away—Stephenson, Holmes, Sutherland and Campbell. (Applause.) I wish particularly to refer to the laboratory work in McGill College in future. The most important function of a medical school is to teach existing medical knowledge, and it is known to you all that a great change has come over the mode of teaching. When I entered the halls of McGill some fifteen years ago, with the exception of practical anatomy, practical chemistry, practical medicine and practical surgery, the teaching was entirely theoretical. The object of this beautiful new building is to further improve the practical teaching of the school. In this new building the students will be able to work in laboratories devoted to practical physiology, pharmacology, pathology and histology. These have been rendered necessary by the demands of modern medical education. To be effective, laboratory work must, in the first place, have plenty of time on the part of the student, and for this purpose the sessions have been so arranged that the first two are almost exclusively devoted to the practical department work. Secondly, the professors in charge of the laboratories should be men well trained in the scientific departments over which they have control—men who are enabled to devote a large part of their time to the work. Thirdly, the laboratories must be well equipped,—and by a well equipped laboratory we mean not only plenty of accommodation, but an abundant supply of modern apparatus and careful and well-trained assistants. To extend scientific work so as to gain a reputation for any school, there must be in connection with the laboratories young men who, under the supervision and control of the professor, are enabled to do original work. This work should not be entrusted

to students, for they have as much as they can do in the four sessions to thoroughly master the subjects necessary for the degree. This work should be bestowed on men who have already passed through their medical course, and who can spare the time and expense to devote a few of the earlier years of their life to original work and research. To this object I most earnestly hope that my *alma mater* in all her departments will quickly turn her attention, as she has already done in other matters. Of the future of this University this gathering to-day augurs well. In the sixty odd years which have passed since the founding of McGill, the labors of those in charge of it have been arduous, and the work which has been accomplished has been grand. So in the next half century the progress will be equally great, if not greater. (Applause.) I need scarcely say in conclusion, gentlemen, how delighted I am to be with my old students again. It is a joy to me to be here amongst well known faces on an occasion which marks the progress of your school.

The DEAN then called on Provost Pepper of Philadelphia to address the meeting.

The PROVOST, who was received with great applause, said :

Sir William Dawson, Members of the Faculty of McGill University, and Gentlemen:—When I received the very kind invitation of the Faculty of your medical department to be present on the occasion of the opening of the new laboratory building of McGill University, I felt constrained to accept (though at serious personal inconvenience) by a variety of motives. The great pleasure of revisiting your beautiful city was a strong inducement of itself; and even stronger was the hope that I should meet those whose friendship it has been my privilege to enjoy, as well as others whose names have been long familiar for their learning, their achievements, or their philanthropy. (Applause.) I knew that I should find McGill University all alive with that fine activity in her various departments which has enabled the struggling college of less than half a century ago to become the vigorous and full proportioned university whose influence is felt throughout the continent, and felt invariably, I may truly say, on the side of sound learning and healthy progress. I knew that I should find in the recent additions to her academic buildings and facilities models to admire for their fitness to the purpose in view, and that they would inspire me as fresh evidences of a widespread determination on the part of the people of this vast country that nothing shall be withheld which is needed for the diffusion—east, west, north and south—of the priceless blessings of sound, pure, high education. (Loud applause.) Need I say that I have enjoyed this pleasure: that I have been permitted to realize this hope; that I shall carry away with me this fresh assurance and inspiration, and in larger measure than I had ventured to anticipate from so brief a visit? But I have not yet alluded to the feeling which, above all, constrained me to attend these interesting ceremonies. This was my conviction, that the building to be formally opened to-day was, if I may venture to use the expression, the final proof that McGill University has chosen the path of true progress rather than that of selfish profit in regard to medical education, and has determined that in the future, as in the past, the interests of the community and of scientific truth shall be held infinitely above the personal gains of the teachers who labor in these halls. (Applause.) There has been a hard struggle during the past twenty-five years to elevate the standard of medical education in America and to bring its

methods into harmony with the swiftly changing condition of natural science. Happily this struggle is over, and the educated sense of the community, lay as well as professional, has learned to recognize in the graduates of such schools as those of the University of Pennsylvania, of Harvard, and of McGill University the best representatives of the healing art. If I needed an illustration of this, I should find it close at hand in one of your own graduates, whose brilliant scientific attainments have won for him unusual distinction and honors in his native land no less than abroad, and who has recently been called to fill one of the leading chairs in the oldest and most distinguished medical school of the continent. May I not add that in this new position he is sustaining the high reputation and winning the same strong personal attachments which he enjoyed here? (Applause.)

It would be difficult to convey to anyone not familiar with the subject an adequate conception of the changes recently effected in medical education and in medical practice. I left Philadelphia yesterday afternoon, dined satisfactorily on the train, passed a comfortable night, and found myself in Montreal early this morning. Unhappily I am forced to leave by the afternoon train, and I expect to travel safely, and with equal precision, comfort and speed, back to Philadelphia by to-morrow morning. Steam, electricity, the highest attainments of physical science and the most perfect mechanical appliances, with thorough training and discipline, render this seeming miracle an everyday occurrence. Fifty years ago I should have reluctantly entrusted myself to the rude mercies of a mail waggon, and a month would have been spent in the journey to and fro, even if the perils of flood and mud, of breaking down and upsetting did not give additional and unwelcome variety and duration. It might be extravagant to assert that the change between the medical man of the last century and of to-day—between the old medical method and the new—is as great as between, let me say, the general manager of the Grand Trunk railroad and the most skilful jehu who then drove His Majesty's mail coach. (Applause.) But in fact the change is no less real and important, and has been brought about through the operation of the same influences. With the introduction of exact methods of scientific research, the development of organic chemistry and the invention of the microscope and other instruments of precision, the entire field of medical science underwent rapidly a marvellous change. The ancient burden of tradition and of blind allegiance to eminent authority fell from men's minds, and their eyes were lifted to behold the truth as it is in nature and in nature alone. No need now to dwell upon the swift development of rational medicine which has followed. But this much at least may be asserted, that at this day it were no more reasonable to cling tenaciously to the school doctrines of Galen, of Brown, of Broussais, or of Hahnemann than to cross the continent on a buck-board instead of in a Pullman coach. In all medical schools of the first rank—high in which honorable line stands McGill—this new scientific method of medical education is firmly established. The struggle to secure it has been a hard one. In the United States, and to a much less degree in Canada, powerful prejudice, the vested interests of an excessive number of competing schools, and the great cost of the buildings and outfit requisite for the successful establishment of a full graded course of medical education with the attendant technical training, has hindered and deferred its development. A few years ago I took occasion to indicate as plainly as I could the grave defects of medical education as it then existed in the United States—and unhappily still does exist save in a few schools—and the reforms which were obviously needed. The latter were:—

1st, the establishment of a preparatory examination; 2nd, the exaction of a period of collegiate studies of at least three years of eight or nine months each; 3rd, the careful grading of the courses; 4th, the introduction of ample practical instruction of each student, both at the bedside and in laboratories; 5th, the establishment of effective examinations, both written and practical, at the close of the course of study of each subject, in lieu of the unsatisfactory oral examinations in common use; 6th, the endowment of medical schools so as to secure fixed salaries for the professors, who would then cease to have any pecuniary interest in the size of their classes. If you can appreciate the devoted and self-sacrificing toil needed to keep the standard as high as the claims of science and the interests of the community demand, while a faculty is constantly subjected to the temptation of entering on a more profitable and facile course, you must cheerfully award the highest praise to the earnest and gifted men whose labors have for forty years maintained the medical department of McGill University in the true path. In 1846, the University of Pennsylvania, whose medical department is the oldest medical school in America, made an unsuccessful attempt to elevate the standard of medical education; but it has not been till within the past fifteen years that the necessary reforms have been securely adopted by a few of the leading colleges there. In McGill University, on the other hand, ever since 1848 a preliminary examination has been required; the course of study has extended over four years, and has been carefully graded, while from time to time such important subjects as medical jurisprudence and botany have been added to the compulsory list; an admirable system of bedside instruction has been developed, and the final examinations before graduation have been rendered practical, searching and impartial. In dwelling with justifiable pride on such a record it might seem pardonable to overlook the shortcomings and defects which have remained. But the interesting ceremonies of to-day prove that the same spirit which animated the men of the past—your Stephenson, Holmes, Caldwell, Robertson and Campbell—still inspires their worthy successors. (Loud and long continued applause.) You see to-day that their efforts, seconded by the powerful influence of one under whose skilful guidance all departments of McGill University have made rapid strides during the past thirty years, have supplied one of the remaining great needs of the medical school. In this splendid building the students of medicine will hereafter be taught in the only way which can possibly bring out their best powers. The most eloquent discourses by the most learned professors can but impart facts, teach the methods of correct reasoning, expound the laws of pathology which have been established, and furnish illustrations from the rich stores of experience. This is valuable and essential instruction, but no amount of it will train the student to use his own eyes and hands in the practical investigation and recognition of disease. The laboratories of anatomy, of chemistry, of physiology and of pathology, and later the wards of the hospital are the real educators in this, the most important portion of the training of a medical man. It is in them alone that can be produced physicians, who shall be neither theorists nor routinists, but clear-sighted, practical students of nature as revealed in the myriad forms of morbid action, and in the no less numerous agencies for the prevention or cure of disease. From the labors of these well-trained physicians of the future shall spring the highest physical welfare of the individual and of the state. (Applause.) Results await them far transcending all that have yet been attained; the detection of the subtle causes of deadly maladies; the discovery of remedies whose

specific power shall rival that of quinine in malarial fever; the establishment of means of prevention no less sure than Jenner's precious gift of vaccination, the culpable neglect of which in a small area is even now showing a startled people the horrors from which they are secured. Such is the lofty task imposed upon medical science. Real progress will be slow, errors numerous, excess in one direction often ill corrected by excess in another. But through the weary struggle, no doubt of ultimate success can be harbored so long as our methods are rational, our zeal unselfish, and our aim stamped with the fine old motto of Boerhaave—"Simplex Sigillum Veri." It is easy to see the widening range of medical influence on modern life and legislation. The advancing intelligence of the community recognizes more and more clearly in the medical profession, a body of men who, while possessed of their full share of human weaknesses and class prejudices, still do labor faithfully for the most vital material interests of the race. As positive knowledge has increased, the assumption of mysterious powers has become almost obsolete, and relations of far more real confidence and respect have been established between the medical profession and the community. And with this growth of public interest in general medical questions and of public confidence in the medical profession there must necessarily develop in the community a sense of responsibility and obligation towards those institutions which are honestly doing their share towards supplying it with well educated, practical physicians. Hitherto it has been the custom to regard medical schools as in a peculiar sense the property and charge of medical men. In no other way can we understand the remarkable apathy of the public towards the abuses which might exist in their management and teaching, and towards their claims for endowment upon the generous patrons of learning. All must have been struck with the fact that, while tens of millions have been given during the past half century for the support of classical and scientific education, the general movement for the endowment of medical schools is of very recent origin. Within the last decade, however, a number of munificent gifts and bequests have been received, which show that at last the interest and approval of the community have been awakened by the earnest efforts made in various colleges to place medical education on its proper basis. The splendid gifts of Johns Hopkins, of Mrs John Rhea Barton, of Vanderbilt, of Carnegie, and of your own liberal benefactor, the Hon. Donald A. Smith (loud applause which lasted for several minutes), the countless smaller ones which have erected such stately buildings as the medical halls and laboratories of Harvard and the University of Pennsylvania, and finally this noble structure of your own, attest this truth. The movement has but begun however; but since it has become apparent that no gifts promote more directly the best interests of the community than do these in support of the new and higher medical education, we may confidently expect to see it advance until all deserving medical schools are fully endowed. The amounts needed are large. There are several chairs in each faculty, the incumbents of which should receive an ample fixed salary, since their time must be devoted to scientific work which brings no other remuneration. These professorships should all be fully endowed. The increased time required for a medical education, and the higher preliminary preparation exacted from those entering on it, involve so heavy a drain on the student's resources that some of the worthiest are reluctantly forced to seek their diplomas at schools of lower grade. This should be obviated by the establishment of an ample number of scholarships to be awarded on the results of competitive examination. Further it is essential that the great medical

schools shall be centres not only of teaching, but of elaborate original investigation upon such subjects as the causes of disease and the action of remedies. Who is not familiar with the profound researches of recent years upon the nature and causation of consumption, of diphtheria, of cholera? Such investigations must be carried on in laboratories, such as you have constructed here, and there should be in connection with every such institution a number of well endowed fellowships tenable for one year or longer, so that encouragement and support may be given to those scientific men who are able and willing to devote themselves to these researches. Does anyone question the practical value of these elaborate and costly studies, and the wisdom of expending large sums for the equipment and endowment of such original research? Happily the day has come when even in this practical country, there is a growing recognition of the importance of pure science, and of the influence of abstract scientific investigations upon our material welfare and progress. It might seem extravagant to provide spacious rooms, expensive outfit, and large endowment merely for the study of a few of the lowest and most minute forms of organic life. But it is not extravagant to assert that if such study led to the discovery of the true cause of any one of those great diseases it would be of more practical value to the world than all the gold fields of another California. Lastly, although we look with proud satisfaction on such buildings and laboratories and equipment as these, we must not remain contented. The progress of medical science is rapid and unceasing. New fields of investigation are continually being opened in this as in other branches of natural science; new methods of research are being introduced; enlarged facilities will continue to be required from time to time; and ere long other spacious buildings must be erected. But the achievements of the past and of the present are the sure guarantees of the future. We advance with increasing confidence because assured of the co-operation and support of an enlightened public sentiment. Here in Montreal, at least, such confidence may be most reasonably entertained; for no one can doubt that whatever are the just demands of education and of science in the future, they will be generously supplied by the fellow-citizens of McGill, of Redpath, of Mackay, of the Molsons, and of Donald A. Smith. (Loud applause.)

Hon. Chancellor FERRIER reviewed briefly the rapid progress made in medical education at McGill University, and contrasted the dingy rooms they were condemned to occupy only a few years ago with the palatial establishment now under their control. He congratulated the Faculty very heartily upon their new acquisition, and predicted that the next move would be towards the admission of female students.

The DEAN then called upon the Vice-Chancellor, Sir William Dawson. The distinguished Principal was received with tremendous cheering.

SIR WILLIAM DAWSON said—I have very much pleasure in congratulating the Faculty of Medicine on my own behalf and that of the University upon the progress which it has made, and especially upon the evidence of that progress in this building which we are met to take

possession of to-day. It is an especial reason for gratification to me that one so well qualified as Provost Pepper, and so extensively known for his own successful efforts on behalf of higher education, should have borne so cordial testimony to the excellent work of our Medical Faculty, in which the ceremony of to-day marks a new and important stage of progress. The Medical Faculty of McGill, whose efforts I have known and appreciated for thirty years, has always aimed not at the cramming of young men for examinations, or at giving them in the easiest way a minimum of qualification to enter on medical practice, but rather at the cultivation of a thorough professional training, scientific as well as practical, tending to elevate the profession, to raise it to a higher position than it has hitherto enjoyed in this country. (Applause.) Its efforts in this way have been appreciated by the citizens of Montreal, who are the source of the whole of the prosperity of this University, and to whose liberality, by voluntary contributions, it is due that the present extension of the building of the faculty has been provided. (Applause.) This is not only something to congratulate the faculty upon, but also Montreal itself; it is something to be able to say that there is no other city in Canada the citizens of which have contributed of their means, in the manner in which the citizens of Montreal have done, in order to advance the interests of education in this great profession. (Applause.) I would like also to congratulate you, students, upon the new and better provision which has been made for you. You cannot be expected fully to appreciate the differences between the medical training of thirty years ago and that now provided for you. Dr. Pepper has referred to the great advances which have been made in science and art, and no science or art has advanced more than that noble one represented by this faculty. I have no doubt that many of the most eminent members of the profession around me would gladly, if they could, put off their burden of years and change places with you. Bear in mind, however, that added privileges imply added responsibilities. You are expected to avail yourselves to the utmost of the advantages provided for you, and we may hope that some of you may be able to advance the science of medicine in some of those directions in which it is evident that advance may be made, so as to leave it better than when you found it. (Applause.) Dr. Pepper has referred to some of the most terrible diseases which afflict humanity, and of which the causes and methods of prevention are yet involved in obscurity. May we not hope that in reference to these, discoveries may be made by some of the rising generation of medical men which may associate their names with that of the discoverer of vaccination. The presence here to-day of representatives of all the faculties and associated colleges, and of so many leading citizens, should be taken as an evidence of the interest which is felt in this faculty; and you, students, should learn from this and from the liberal aid given by the citizens, that in Montreal you are among the friends of education and professional training, and that we are all anxious to advance your interests and through them the welfare of the world at large. The presence here to-day, on his eighty-fifth birthday, of our venerable chancellor—(loud and prolonged applause)—who has witnessed the whole history of the medical faculty since its first small beginnings, and the testimony he has borne to its vital importance to the interests of the University, should also be a source of encouragement for the future. (Loud applause.)

The DEAN (Dr. Howard) said that, as representing the Medical Faculty, it devolved upon him to say a few words. The new building, whose opening we are inaugurating to-day, has been erected by the

generosity of the citizens of Montreal, but the money has been borrowed from the endowment funds of the Faculty, as the governors had not the means with which to build it. They, however, had promised that the cost of the building should be refunded hereafter. He felt it necessary to make this explanation, as some of the contributors had expressed a hope that the contributions would not be put into bricks and mortar. When, three years ago, on the occasion of the celebration of the semi-centennial session of the Medical Faculty, the speaker made an appeal to the citizens for assistance, it was distinctly stated that a chair of pathology would be established, and also that junior teachers would be employed in different departments. He was pleased to be able to say that in response to the donations of their friends they had made very considerable progress in the development of the institution. The chair of pathology had been created. Formerly it was well taken care of, for they had one man, the Professor of the Institutes, who was able to do as much work as three—(applause for Prof. Osler)—and he was willing to sacrifice himself and his own advancement for the progress of medical science in the institution; but such a man could not be found every day. Dr. Mills, formerly assistant in the department of physiology, and who, during the last three years, had specially devoted himself to the study of physiology and physiological chemistry in the Johns-Hopkins University and in some of the best schools in the old world, had undertaken the chair of physiology, and intended to make it his sole employment. Dr. Wilkins, a graduate of the sister University of Toronto, who was thoroughly in love with his subject, had undertaken the department of histology; and Dr. Johnston, who had been trained by Dr. Osler, and has been for the last six months working at pathology in Germany and will continue to do so, had been appointed demonstrator of pathology. He was glad to be able to say that now, for the first time, they had in the institution a department for the practical study of microbes fully equipped and under the charge of a gentleman who had had the advantage of a training under the great Koch himself, the greatest living authority on the subject. For each of these departments laboratories have been provided in the new building, with convenient adjoining rooms for the private investigations of the respective teachers. Yet another laboratory has been established in which the subject of pharmacology may be taught as it is in Germany, and suitable apparatus will be employed to explain and illustrate the action of medicines on the animal economy. This laboratory is, as yet, without the necessary equipment. Before concluding, permit me to say that in order to make our school equal to the best European schools we need means to endow several of its chairs, those more particularly filled by specialists—*i.e.*, by men who will devote all their time to their respective subjects, not only as teachers, but as original investigators, and who cannot add to the scant remuneration afforded by students' fees the more valuable honoraria to be earned from patients. The laboratories, too, need much additional apparatus of a costly character for their full equipment. Finally, on behalf of the Medical Faculty and of the medical students, we desire to return thanks to the governors and members of corporation, to the professors of the sister faculties, to our benefactors and our friends from a distance, to all who have manifested by their presence to-day their interest in the progress and advancement of our school. We feel especially grateful to Dr. Pepper, the Provost of the University of Pennsylvania, and to Dr. Osler, now of the same University, but lately one of ourselves, who have come from afar not only to congratulate us and Canadians generally upon the important event

in our history as a medical school that we are celebrating to-day, but to advocate the cause of medical education and address words of sympathy and counsel to our undergraduates.

Surgeon-General BERGIN, M.P., also offered his congratulations as an old student of McGill upwards of 50 years ago.

The proceedings then terminated, and the visitors inspected the buildings, all expressing themselves much pleased with the spacious lecture-rooms and well-equipped laboratories.

THE DINNER.

In the evening a dinner was given by the members of the Faculty to commemorate the event. A large and distinguished company were present, composed of representatives of the various faculties, from sister Universities, benefactors of the College, eminent citizens and journalists. The Dean presided.

After the loyal toasts, that of "The President of the United States" was responded to by Dr. Anderson, the newly-installed Consul-General of the United States.

The CHAIRMAN then gave "Medical Education in the United States and Canada." He said—No subject more engages the serious thought of the leading minds of the medical profession in Great Britain, the United States and Canada than the subject of my toast. I regret that from want of personal experience of the sister schools in the United States I cannot speak accurately of them; but this may safely be asserted, that very considerable advances have been made by them of late in the qualifications of medical students and provisions for medical education. Instead of the older arrangement of graduation after two winter sessions, without any examination into the preliminary education of the candidates, several of the best American colleges have in late years required proof of a sufficient preliminary education, have adopted graded and longer courses, and have made the teaching very largely practical and demonstrative. This has been done more especially by the Universities of Pennsylvania and of Harvard, by the Chicago Medical College, and, I believe, by the Women's Medical College of New York. Besides this, there is an earnest effort being made in many of the States to establish "State Examining Boards" and to insist upon a preliminary examination before commencing the study of medicine, a three years' course of study, and examinations before a "State Board" for a license to practise medicine. A good preliminary education is justly regarded as necessary to the members of the learned professions, although the chronic dispute as to the relative value of classics and mathematics has not yet been settled. In Canada, we have adopted a middle position on this question. The physician should receive as good a general education as the members of the other 'learned professions,' but while some of these require to pay great attention to Latin, Greek, literature, etc., the physician, while not neglecting these, should be well versed in mathematics and physics. In Canada, before beginning the study of medicine, the

student must pass a preliminary examination conducted by recognised boards of experts. We have long since required evidence of the study of medicine for four years, during which three winter sessions of six months must be spent at a recognised school. Two of the oldest Universities now require four such winter sessions, and McGill has recently made one summer session compulsory for the degree of M.D. The teaching in the medical schools is daily becoming more demonstrative and practical—a proof of which you have seen this afternoon in the several laboratories which have been provided in our new building, and in which I feel confident much good work will be done. In some of our best schools very great attention is paid to clinical teaching, and especially to bedside teaching, which is to didactic lectures in medicine and surgery what dissecting is to lectures on anatomy. So much importance is attached to bedside teaching in some of the Canadian schools, that a pass examination is conducted in the hospital, and a failure in it largely influences the fate of the student. This should be insisted upon in every medical school. Practical examinations upon anatomy, histology, and chemistry are also insisted upon in some of the schools. I think, gentlemen, that sufficient has been said to introduce the toast (Medical Education in the United States and Canada), and to show that on this side of the water steady progress is being made in all the departments of what may be called medical education, and that a steady purpose to improve upon the past in this matter has taken possession of the leading schools in the United States and Canada.

PROFESSOR OSLER, in responding, said that when he that day visited the school with which he was connected for ten of the happiest years of his life, it seemed that in the short year that elapsed since he left McGill they had made more progress than in the ten years during which he was connected with the college. So recently had he been with his brethren south of the line, he might feel excused if he did not refer to the many anomalies that existed in the profession in that country. How it was that such a shrewd, practical people as those in the States should have drifted into such a loose, slipshod way of conducting medical schools was unintelligible. To think that two sessions in some schools and three sessions in only a few, a man should be considered qualified to take charge of important lives in the country, was indeed an anomaly. This arose from the abuse that any set of men with sufficient influence could get a charter to establish a medical school from the state legislature. In Canada there was a striking contrast. A man required to be educated before he commenced the study of medicine, he had to pass through four sessions in college, and he had to pass a stringent examination before he obtained his license. The people of Canada ought to appreciate this, because they were in the care of experienced, educated men, and not at the mercy of quacks and charlatans. In Ontario and Quebec, the profession was in advance of any of the States, and even ahead of the older countries, for they had examining boards before which every practitioner from another country had to pass to obtain leave to practice. What was now to be considered in Canada was the advancement of practical and scientific teaching in medicine, and the opening of such a building as that which we have seen to-day is an important step in this direction. It should be a source of pride to Montreal and her people that such an institution was in their midst. (Applause.)

DR. RORTOT, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of Laval, speaking in

French, said that he endorsed the remarks of Professor Osler with regard to the importance of practical and scientific training in medicine. He congratulated the faculty of McGill on the addition which they had received to the buildings. Referring to the medical profession in Canada, he said that it deservedly occupied a high place in the reputation of the world, and he believed that with the progress which every day was being made it would occupy a still higher position. (Applause.) He felt sure that in this march of progress the School of Medicine of Laval would be ready to take its place. (Applause.)

REV. DR. STEVENSON proposed the toast of "The profession of medicine, its relation to, and claims on society." In the course of a speech replete with characteristic eloquence the reverend gentleman said that the medical profession did not look upon man as a purely physical being, nor as a purely intellectual being. It looked upon him as the highest type of a vital being, and the prime state of man was his vitality. They could expect nothing social, nothing moral, nothing religious, until they had vitality, and the medical profession must be very near the noblest of all professions when it took charge of vitality in man. It appeared to him that there were very close connections between the medical profession and the life of society. One very close connection was that a great many human beings would not have been able to struggle into life at all were it not for the presence of the medical man at his birth. (Laughter.) The importance of the profession would appear when it was known that the slightest inattention or want of skill at this important period of life might make a future Shakespeare a Milton, or a Newton an imbecile. If the connection was such at the beginning of life, there must, indeed, be a very close and intimate connection all through life between this noble profession and the interests of humanity. Education was intended to bring into close and harmonious development all those varied powers which, taken together, constitute the highest and noblest humanity. How could they expect to do this without the assistance of their medical friends? It was all very well for the Arts graduates on one side of McGill University to think they could work by themselves. It was all very well to imagine that they in the pulpit could do the work by themselves, but they could neither have active morality nor education without good health and the knowledge of the laws that govern mortality. He spoke of the trusted position which the medical attendant occupied in the family, a position which required ability, integrity and high moral character, and he was glad to be able to say that all those attainments were possessed by the medical practitioners of Canada. He did not know much about drugs, but he could say that one cheering word from the doctor was better than any drug he had ever taken. He congratulated the medical profession in Canada on the progress of medical education in Montreal; he congratulated the city of Montreal on what she had already done and upon what she would do. In conclusion he said that in his ideal a perfect physician was a perfect man, and of the physician it might be said, as was said of the perfect ideal of humanity, "He went about doing good. (Loud applause.)

In responding,

DR. HINGSTON said:—Your President, gentlemen, has displayed this evening a knowledge of the highest art of the gastromet. He has almost spurred the jaded mental appetite beyond its own better sense. As there comes, however, a moment in every *recherché* repast when,

after some rich and well-flavored dish, and when the sense of taste is still reveling in its delights, there comes, I say, a moment, when there must be served up something very plain and simple, and without condiment of any kind, to afford rest to the appetite, but to afford, at the same time, continued exercise to the masticators. Coming, as I do, after one of Montreal's most distinguished and, I may add, most convincing speakers, I am not slow to recognize the function assigned to me: to afford you (to use the, no doubt, oft-used language of my revered friend) opportunity to mark, learn and inwardly digest all that he has so well said to you. The duty of the medical profession to society is, in principle, very plain and simple, but in execution sometimes difficult and embarrassing. Society is not a simple entity, or being or existence; nor is it a particular species of being, nor yet an association of precisely similar beings,—nor yet is it always united by social sympathies, nor bound together by true companionship. There is nothing outside of its self to which it may be compared. Unlike anything in animated nature, it joins, or proposes to join, by mutual consent or interest, or by common accord, very dissimilar and sometimes very discordant elements. It is frequently artificial in its construction—not always healthy in its tone, not always irreproachable in its morals, not always correct in its tastes. It has been compared in its wholeness to a crystal, and in arrangement to the constituent molecules of a crystal. But any given crystal on its outer surface presents facets and angles ever the same. Cleave it, and the same facets and the same angles are produced. Reduce each fragment to smaller proportions—and the same unerring plane, the same unerring angles. The outer surface of society does not present the same facets to all, although it presents many rude angularities to all. Cleave it, and its facets and angles are replaced by others of entirely different character. A crystal may be examined *per se*, society must be seen through an atmosphere which bathes it, which clings to it, which changes and is changed by it. That atmosphere is not always of transparently moral order. Society is not always noble, generous, unselfish in its aspirations. It has not always a love of God and of neighbour as its end, and the means to that end are not such as can always be approved of by honour or by conscience. Chameleon-like, it is ever changing. Yet in its changefulness, the members of our profession must be true to it even in its changefulness, and true to themselves—must do their duty to it, and yet do their duty to themselves. And the reconciliation of duty to society, in its changefulness, and to themselves is not of easy accomplishment. There was a time when the highest distinction in society was that which education, culture and knowledge conferred on their possessor,—and at that time no less a critical observer than Samuel Johnson accorded to the members of the medical profession the highest position in society for their culture and general knowledge. Is it the same to-day? *Nous avons changé tout cela.* The highest distinction to-day is that conferred by wealth! Does the physician hope still to be distinguished in that way, where wealth is the chief distinction? Vain hope! The distinction conferred upon the physician by knowledge, when the possession of knowledge was the highest distinction, was an unmixed good to society; but the distinction which could be conferred on the physician by wealth, where the possession of wealth is considered the highest distinction, would be an unmixed evil to society. And why? The distinction which he would gain by the possession of such wealth would not only disqualify him for that severe and continual mental and physical labour which the physician must ever prodigalize in the interests of society. As society has

changed, as the standard of excellence has changed with it, is there not a danger that the profession, too, may change? Is there no evidence already that it, too, is experiencing that undesirable change? The commercial spirit is now abroad. It is leveling everything, and birth, education, conduct even, are judged by it. Nobles of Europe think themselves not dishonoured at finding their names gracing the bill-heads of commercial firms in America or herding cattle in the Far West, while successful miners or contractors are the associates of princes and rulers. Where is to be the position of the medical profession in this phantasma, where wealth has had given to it illusive importance? Precisely where the medical profession intelligently places itself. Its influence, its power for good (and that is its chief claim), will never diminish so long as its members are true to the best interests of society. And that will be so long as they continue to fit themselves for the proper discharge of their important duties to society. The end of civil society is the temporal happiness of the subject. Its purpose is to aid man in acquisition and to secure him in enjoyment of temporal goods, in peaceful possession of which his mere natural happiness consists. Pope says:—

“Reason’s whole pleasure, all the joys of sense,
Lie in three words: Health, peace, and competence.”

This is hardly an adequate classification of *all* man’s aspirations, even in the natural order,—and narrow are the limits assigned to “Reason’s *whole* pleasure.” To the fund of merely sensible enjoyment these, then (health, peace and competence), are principal contributors. But they are not contributors to an equal degree—for wealth only gathers, peace only keeps, health alone uses. The pre-eminence of health is undoubted. Without it, wealth has no one to reap for, and peace has no one to hoard for. Of all the goods which constitute man’s mere temporal happiness, and which it is the end of society to safeguard, health is first. But society itself has foes. These threaten wealth, they threaten peace, they threaten health. When wealth is threatened, and when commercial crises or changes of fortune occur, they are but the transferences of wealth from A who has, to B who desires, its possession. When wars occur, nations engaged in them may still have their enjoyment, and may even regret their termination. But when a plague or an epidemic occurs it is the worst of all, as it removes the enjoyment of all goods. At festive gatherings such as this the usual toasts include the “Houses of Parliament,” etc. These are the expressions of society’s gratitude to professions to which it has committed grave obligations. It looks to the first to enact laws for the people’s advantage, such as shall foster and secure the national wealth and safeguard the public credit . . . to the Bench and the Bar—law interpreters, law workers, law twisters and torturers—sometimes (though that is *not* their function) to preserve to the component elements of society their goods and chattels, and even their good name . . . to the soldier to secure society against foreign foe. It looks (though less expansively grateful for it, it must be conceded) to the medical profession to guard its best of treasures against its worst of foes. This is an honourable trust, but at the same time it has weighty obligations. And what are those obligations upon him who hopes and wishes to discharge his simple duty to that complex, fitful, changing phantasma called society? *First*. He shall *fit* himself for his duties. *Second*. He shall *devote* himself to their discharge! But what do these involve? Time forbids me to enter upon the first—while most of those around this table know well what the second involves of sacrifice of time, comfort, and even of health. Though not

asked to speak of *rights*, it is difficult to omit mentioning that one very elementary obligation to safeguard the health of society implies the right to such co-operation as a discharge of obligation implies. The soldier, to whom the physician is so often compared, does not arm himself, but is armed against the enemy. He owes skill and devotion to duty, and he gives it; but *material* means the threatened society must itself provide. And that society is most to be congratulated which knows how best to fulfil its obligations towards the guardians of its wealth—its peace—but more than all its health, without which wealth and peace may have a holiday. In conclusion, it gives me satisfaction to see my old Alma Mater so steadily advancing in public favour and usefulness, substantial evidence of which was furnished them in the splendid structure the opening of which has been celebrated this day.

SIR WILLIAM DAWSON proposed "Our Benefactors." He said that the present position of McGill was due to the men of princely and liberal minds, residents in the city who increased the endowment and made its educational mission what it was to-day. In the earlier history of the University the Medical Faculty had shown so much vigor and progress that public aid seemed more strongly called for by other departments of the work; but it should be borne in mind that the health of the body depended on the equally balanced action of all its organs, and what had been done for other Faculties had reacted favorably on this. Now the turn of the Medical Faculty had come, and the Leancoil and Campbell Memorial funds were not only in themselves magnificent gifts, but an earnest of what might be hoped for in future. (Applause.)

MR. DONALD A. SMITH on being called upon to respond, was cordially applauded. In reply he said that he felt that all the contributors to the funds of the McGill University must feel it an honor to be associated with that institution. They must look upon it as an honor to be connected with the honorable gentlemen of the medical faculty. That night they had heard from eminent professional men from the United States and Canada, notwithstanding the high position of the medical profession in Canada, how necessary it was to still improve the facilities for medical education. On the part of the contributors to the medical faculty, he should say that their desire was to see this progress, and their efforts would be directed to give further and to induce others to give liberally for the cause of education.

DR. CRAIK proposed the toast of "The Medical Associations of the United States and Canada." He called attention to the important duties devolving upon these associations, to whose care were entrusted the higher interests of the profession at large, as well as of the schools, and from whose deliberations we should naturally look for guidance in most questions of medical reform, whether of a political, social, or educational character. In bodies from which so much was expected, especial care should be taken that influential positions should be filled only by those who have shown an interest in advocating the interests of the profession, instead of conferring them upon individuals, however worthy in other respects, from mere personal reasons. The work of these Associations, properly carried out, should exercise a healthy influence upon the schools, upon the profession at large, and, through them, upon the whole community.

The DEAN then called upon Dr. Grant of Ottawa, who was received with applause. He said:

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen:—I can assure you it affords me no

ordinary degree of gratification to have had the opportunity extended to me to be present on this auspicious occasion. This is a red-letter day in the history of McGill University. It gives evidence of progress, growth and intellectual development such as any country has reason to feel proud of. Our Canadian students to-day are attracted to Vienna by the extent and development of the various scientific chairs. Year by year our students are returning from those great centres of scientific advancement, and giving evidence of a tangible character as to the remarkable mental evolution that is now recognized in such centres as Vienna. These young gentlemen are to-day gradually occupying the professional chairs in our Universities, and what we desire, the earnest aim and object that we have in view is to keep pace with this march of scientific progress, and to have an institution in Canada which will attract from the various portions of the Dominion the young men to this centre, instead of their going abroad to acquire that information. The building of which we have had a view to-day is certainly a new departure, and I have no doubt whatever that the time is not far distant when our young men will embrace to the fullest extent the opportunities that are now extended to them through the liberality and princely generosity of our Canadians, some of whom we have present with us to-night on this festive occasion. I trust the day is near at hand when those who enter the medical profession will at least take to one or two departments of natural science. The mental digestion, like the gastric, requires a change of diet, otherwise the mental capacity becomes warped from a constant application in one groove. Change is certainly desirable, in order to maintain vigor, activity and mental evolution in the very highest sense. In years past, the very foundations of medical science in McGill were planted firm and sure, with practical skill and matured judgment, by Holmes, Stephenson and Caldwell. (Applause.) As the acorn produces the mighty oak, expanding its roots, trunk and branches, so McGill has fructified and radiated an influence of a most powerful and beneficial character throughout the length and breadth of this country, and at this fountain head of medical education we recognize some of the best fruits in such men as Howard, Fenwick, Hingston and Roddick. (Applause.) But, gentlemen, the evening is growing late, and I would not desire to detain you by any lengthened observations. The sentiment, however, which has been placed in my hands by the worthy Chairman—that of “The medical Associations of the United States and Canada”—demands some observations from me. No matter to what part of the great American Republic you go, evidence of progress is seen. In science, in literature, and in art, they are abreast of the general advancement of the civilized world, and in our profession they have certainly achieved a position second to none. When we recall the names of such men as Bowditch of Boston, Thomas of New York, and Pepper of Philadelphia, we have in these representatives an intellectual tripod of medical genius, whose works are recognized everywhere. The position they hold to-day is a proud one, and as teachers of the medical art the members of the rising generation of the great American Republic are only too willing and ready on every occasion to embrace the opportunities extended to them of acquiring knowledge at these fountains of truth and progress in medical science. Not alone is it confined to these gentlemen, but in almost all the great centres in the United States there are men in our profession that are certainly looked upon as great lights. I will not dwell upon this subject at much length, but I must say that at all the great gatherings in the United States of our profession—at the various association meetings,

the representatives from Canada have been received with open arms. We are willing to acknowledge their generosity, liberality and hospitality, and we trust the good feeling existing between us may long continue. We are one people on either side of an imaginary Chinese wall. We enjoy the same literature, speak the same language, have our origin from the same parent stock. We are, in fact, one people, and why should we not vie with each other in the enjoyment of the same privileges that are extended to us in the various meetings of those associations, whether Canadian or American. At the International Medical Congress which assembled at Philadelphia a few years ago, there were men present from all parts of the world vying with each other in order to see what could be accomplished for the relief of suffering humanity, and nowhere was there greater evidence of advancement in medical science than amongst the members of the profession in that great country. (Applause.) They have taken away from us for a short time our Professor Osler. We are only too happy to be able to lend him, but we trust the day is not far distant when he will again be with us Canadians, and our young men once more enjoying with pride and satisfaction the power that he possesses of disseminating clinical and pathological information. (Cheers.) Thirteen years ago, during the congress of our medical men in this city of Montreal, I had the pleasure of being elected President of the Canadian Medical Association, which embraces a territory extending from the Atlantic on the one side to the Pacific on the other. That day, I may say, was one of pride and gratification to me. To be placed in the position of a medical representative at the head of so honorable a body is a distinction in itself that any member of our profession might well prize. Our Association, it is true, is not an old one, and still we find that in each year that passes we recognize an increasing interest in its work. The papers read exhibit a high, literary and scientific taste; they are more numerous than formerly, and they give evidence of an enquiry into cause and effect in relation to disease which is of a most creditable character. I cannot speak too highly of the original investigations now being carried on by Dr. Mills on the inhibitory nerves of the heart. This is a new departure in physiology, and I feel confident that such investigations will tend greatly to throw fresh light on our knowledge of cardiac disease generally. The next meeting of the Association is to take place in Quebec, and I trust that those interested in its work will, during the next twelve months, endeavor to contribute additional papers, bringing out new facts if possible, in order to throw fresh light on many obscure points in connection with their profession. The great aim and object that we have in view is by co-operation with each other to advance our profession, and these associations, whether Canadian or American, by working in harmony, will tend materially to stimulate medical science and original investigation on the North American continent. Gentlemen, I thank you for the kind consideration which you have given to the few hurried observations that I have had the pleasure of making on this occasion, and I trust that there may be other reunions such as the present with the object of celebrating the addition of other buildings requisite for the completion of the medical organization of our Alma Mater. (Applause.)

DR. GEORGE ROSS proposed "The Medical Councils." He said that these important bodies had in their care the management of all on which depended the best interests of the profession. Although in existence but a few years, the opinion was unanimous that to them was largely due the fact that the standing of the profession in Canada was deservedly so high. They had ensured that every man admit-

ted to the practice of medicine had received a fair general education and was also in possession of good medical knowledge. They had done much to raise the standard of education in the Dominion, to prevent imposition, and to protect from quacks and charlatans. The public admitted this, and accepted the licenses as a fair passport to their confidence. McGill University, he was proud to say, had always been loyal to the councils, and urged students to comply faithfully with all their requirements. The assessors or visitors from the governing body in this Province are always welcomed to her examinations; the freest scrutiny is always courted, as she is convinced her teaching will be found even in excess of that demanded.

DR. BERGIN, M.P., President of the Ontario Medical Council, responded. He alluded in a forcible speech to the good that had been accomplished since the establishment of the Council, the care taken in the selection of examiners, the strictness of its tests, and the satisfaction generally expressed with the results obtained.

The toasts of "The Ladies" and "The Press" were duly honored, and

DR. F. W. CAMPBELL, Dean of the Medical Faculty of Bishop's College, proposed the health of Prof. Howard, the Chairman, to whose exertions so much of the success recently accomplished by the Faculty was due. The toast was received with great enthusiasm.

The following letters of regret were read:—

418 FIFTH AVENUE,

NEW YORK, October 11, 1885.

To Professor Howard.

MY DEAR SIR,—I appreciate fully and gratefully the honor of the invitation to be present at the opening of the new building of the Medical Department of McGill University, and I assure you it would afford me great pleasure to offer my congratulations in person and to enjoy the hospitality of the dinner. My duties here, however, compel me to forego this pleasure. I must content myself with an expression of thanks, together with my earnest wishes for the continued prosperity of the institution with which you are connected.

Most truly yours,

AUSTIN FLINT.

TORONTO, 5th October, 1885.

MY DEAR DR. HOWARD,—I pray you to accept my very sincere thanks for your kind consideration in tendering to me an invitation to participate in the rejoicing of your Faculty on the auspicious occasion of the formal opening of your new buildings. As the oldest now surviving medical graduate of McGill College, it is very natural that I should feel a deep and abiding interest in everything that gives indication of the successful progress of my venerated alma mater, and more especially of her medical school, to which I have never ceased to feel grateful. But, my dear doctor, when a man has stepped over the threshold of four-score and one, it seems to me that he should begin to look beyond the confines of time for his sources of enjoyment.

Permit me again to thank you for your invitation, and to request you to express to your Faculty my assurance of high esteem and earnest wishes for the prosperity of your meritorious school.

I remain, sincerely yours,

JOSEPH WORKMAN.

R. P. Howard, M.D., Dean of the Medical Faculty, McGill College.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE,
TORONTO, October 9th, 1885.

DEAR SIR,—You will please convey to the Faculty my hearty congratulations on this evidence of the progress of the McGill Medical School, which holds so deservedly high a reputation; and my best wishes for their continued success.

Yours most truly, DAN. WILSON.

Dr. R. P. Howard, Dean of Medical Faculty, McGill University.

109 MADISON AVENUE,
NEW YORK, Oct. 14th, 1885.

DEAR SIR,—There are many indications—and this new building of yours is, I suspect, one of them—that the outside public is beginning to appreciate the fact that in promoting the cause of medical education, it is as truly promoting the welfare of humanity as when it gives funds for the building and equipment of hospitals, asylums, or any other forms of charitable institutions. I hope that this feeling will spread and gain strength until our medical schools shall have been placed on the same footing with the leading (non-medical) scientific schools of the country, as regards adequate equipment and endowment.

Thanking you for your courteous invitation, and regretting that I shall not be able to accept it,

I remain, yours very truly, ALBERT H. BUCK.

R. P. Howard, M.D., Dean of the Medical Faculty, McGill University.

MONTRÉAL, 21 Octobre, 1885.

MON CHER DR. HOWARD,—Soyez persuadé que je serai avec vous de cœur et d'esprit, car comme ancien élève du Collège McGill, je suis trop glorieux des succès de mon alma mater pour ne pas m'en réjouir avec elle, et dans une occasion comme celle-ci je crois devoir lui renouveler l'expression de ma reconnaissance pour tout ce que je lui dois. Puisse-t-elle toujours, avec des professeurs aussi distingués que ceux qui la dirigent aujourd'hui, faire la gloire non seulement de Montréal mais de toute la puissance.

Tout à vous, THS. E. D'ODET D'ORSONNENS.

FREDERICTON, N.B., Oct. 18th, 1885.

Dr. R. P. Howard, Dean, Medical Department, McGill University.

DEAR SIR,—As I shall not have the pleasure of meeting you personally, I beg to assure you that the Council of Physicians and Surgeons of New Brunswick feel the deepest interest in medical education in Canada. We now register none excepting those who come from an institution which requires a four years course, and we are greatly pleased to know that McGill, at least, insists upon this.

Thanking you for your kind consideration,

I remain, yours very truly, J. G. CURRIE.

LEWISTON, ME., October 19th, 1885.

Dean and Members of the Faculty of Medicine, McGill University,

DEAR SIRS,—In behalf of the Maine Medical Association, I desire to congratulate you on the completion of an enterprise so full of promise to the interests of the medical profession of the Dominion and sister States of the Union, and to express the wish that your fullest anticipations of future usefulness and prosperity may be realized.

Very truly and sincerely yours, O. A. HERR.

LONDON, 8th October, 1885.

MY DEAR DR. HOWARD,—Please convey to the Faculty of McGill College my sincere regrets in not being able to accept their kind invitation for 22nd inst. I assure you that it would afford me very great pleasure could I be present on that auspicious occasion, for I have followed with a good deal of satisfaction and pride the advancement made by my Alma Mater, and now on receiving such a recognition, especially by the hand of the Dean, my own highly-honored and kindly-remembered preceptor, warms up afresh memories dear, and stirs within me a desire to meet you and my friends again. Having taken a deep interest in things medical, I do, indeed, feel it a very great disappointment in denying myself the privilege of being present in person to show how glad I am that you have provided such excellent facilities for the more thorough educational work in all medical branches. And now allow me the pleasure of congratulating you and your colleagues. Wishing you a very profitable and pleasant time on the 22nd, and wishing you God's speed in this noble work, praying that you yourself may be long spared in your honorable position,

Believe me yours very sincerely,

E. P. EDWARDS,

R. P. Howard, Esq., M.D., Dean, McGill College, Montreal.

MONTREAL, 15th October, 1885.

Dr. R. P. Howard, Dean of the Medical Faculty, McGill University.

MY DEAR DR. HOWARD,—I am sorry, indeed, that I shall not be able to attend the ceremonies at McGill College, as well as the proposed dinner at the Windsor in connection with them, on the 22nd inst., as I leave by the Cunard steamer on Saturday next for England.

I need scarcely express to you the satisfaction with which I, as a medical graduate, see the evidence of progress in connection with the medical department of McGill; and the success which attends the efforts of the earnest men connected with it to keep McGill medical teaching abreast of the best Universities in this country and abroad. I think the whole history of the Medical Faculty of McGill College is one of patient, untiring, successful effort, crowned with many instances of personal and professional sacrifice, and I rejoice in the conviction that the same spirit seems to actuate the coming men as fully as those upon whom more especially the heat and burthen of work now fall. I can only say that I honestly believe the Faculty over which you preside has fully realized and fairly carried out the spirit of the motto of the University, "Grandescunt aucta labore," and I am persuaded that in the future, as in the past, McGill medical teaching and training will be foremost, *facile princeps*.

Express my regrets to your colleagues for my unavoidable absence, and accept the assurance of my best wishes for the progress of the University in general and the Medical Faculty in particular.

Ever your obedient friend and pupil,

L. RUGGLES CHURCH.

Letters of regret were also received from Sir Chas. Tupper, Sir A. T. Galt, Principal Grant, Drs. Wright, Geikie and Daniel Clark of Toronto; Dr. Moore, the Dean of the Medical

Department of the Western University ; Dr. Dupuis, of Kingston ; Dr. Holmes, the President elect of the Canadian Medical Association ; Dr. Tye, the President of the Ontario Medical Association ; from the post-Presidents of the Canadian Medical Association and the Ontario Medical Council, and from the Presidents of the County Medical Associations of the adjoining States.

