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(Reproduced from the *Glasgow Herald*, *January 30th*, 1893.)

On January 28th, 1893, in the Bute Hall of the University, a portrait of Professor Gairdner, subscribed for by his old pupils, and painted by Sir George Reid, P.R.S.A., was presented to the University of Glasgow, and a replica was at the same time given to the family of Dr. Gairdner. Principal Caird presided, and there was a large attendance of ladies and gentlemen. Among others present were—Professors Story, Dickson, Jack, M'Kendrick, Cleland, Ferguson, and Bradley; Sheriff Berry, Archbishop Eyre, Mr. J. O. Mitchell, Mr. C. D. Gairdner, Mr. Jas. M. Gairdner, Mr. Frank Gairdner, Mr. Hugh Brown, Mr. J. H. Dickson, Mr. Jas. Faed, Drs. J. D. Maclaren, Mather, Lapraik, Wallace Anderson, M'Calman (Oban), W. L. Reid, Hector Cameron, Finlayson, Newman, Gemmell, Naismith (Ayr), Napier, Duncan, R. C. Maclagan (Edinburgh), and many other medical men from Glasgow and the West and South of Scotland.

Dr. Middleton intimated that letters of apology for absence had been received from the Earl of Stair, Lord Blythswood, the Lord

Provost, the Dean of Guild, Sir Michael Connal, Mr. James A. Campbell, M.P., Professors Simpson and Charteris, Mr. Jas. Campbell, Mr. Charles Gairdner, Mr. William Ker, Mr. William Gairdner, Professors Grainger Stewart and Crum Brown, Drs. Heron Watson, Joseph Bell, and Batty Tuke (of Edinburgh), Professor Findlay (Aberdeen), Rev. Dr. Macgregor (Edinburgh), Drs. Sinclair (Dundee), Adam (Kent), J. B. Carruthers (Edinburgh), Howden (Montrose), Thin (London), and many others from all parts of England and Scotland.

Dr. Joseph Coats said,—Mr. Principal, Ladies and Gentlemen—I rise in the name of between 500 and 600 gentlemen, whom I think I may call fellow-students, inasmuch as we have all been pupils of Dr. Gairdner—(applause)—to present to you, Sir, as head of this great University, the portrait of one of its most distinguished professors. For some years back I have frequently heard the opinion expressed that a portrait should be painted of Dr. Gairdner, so that his appearance should be commemorated and preserved. The present movement actually took shape from a letter which I received from a much-respected practitioner in Glasgow, Dr. Quintin M'Lennan, who wrote saying that he thought the time had fully come for carrying out such a project, and he was good enough to say that he considered that I was the person to take the lead in the matter. On receiving this letter I called together a few friends, who cordially approved of the movement. A larger meeting was then held of Gairdner's old students, and they also unanimously and enthusiastically resolved to go on with it. At this meeting there was some discussion as to whether the subscriptions should be limited to old students, or whether a larger public should be appealed to. It was resolved to limit it to former students, as it was believed that coming from those who had directly profited by his teaching it would be more gratifying to Dr. Gairdner, and a more suitable gift to the University. I make this

explanation because I know that there are many who feel disappointed at not having had the opportunity of subscribing. Gairdner began his career in Edinburgh, and although it is thirty years since he left that city to come to Glasgow, there are still a considerable number of his Edinburgh students, scattered up and down England and Scotland, and even abroad, who have come forward to subscribe to the fund. Some of them are present here to-day. Of course, the great bulk of his students have gone through his hands in Glasgow, and the great majority of the subscribers are Glasgow graduates.

Dr. Gairdner began his career as a pathologist in Edinburgh, and I believe I am expressing his own opinion when I say that in his work as a pathologist he laid the basis of his attainments as a scientific physician. (Applause.) In those days pathology was not regarded as of sufficient importance to occupy the entire attention and be the life-work of a man, and partly for that reason he forsook pathology in that sense and took to practical medicine. But from intimate personal knowledge I am able to assure you that whilst Dr. Gairdner became a physician he did not cease to be a scientific pathologist. (Applause.) For about ten years he continued in Edinburgh lecturing on medicine, and doing the work of a physician in the Royal Infirmary. At that period he published many important contributions to the science of medicine. Just at the close of it he issued his book on "Clinical Medicine," a work which at once stamped him as a thinker and observer of the first rank. That was in 1862. In the same year he became Professor of Medicine in the University of Glasgow. (Applause.) For all the intervening thirty years he has passed through his class men who have settled all over the country, and whose representative I am now in presenting this portrait to the University.

It is long since I myself was a student in the technical sense under

Gairdner; but looking back through this long vista of years, I may try to embody the impressions which I formed of his teaching. I think it will be acknowledged that Gairdner's teaching was more educational than didactic; that his endeavour was more to embody principles and to give philosophical insight into the phenomena of disease than simply to teach facts. To the average student the utility of this is not always apparent. He is perhaps too intent upon examinations to relish that kind of thing; but looking back with the advantage of a wider experience, I think that Gairdner's students settled throughout the world have the feeling that the insight which he gave them into the science, the principles, and the facts of medicine, the enthusiasm which he instilled into their minds in his class-room, have stamped him as perhaps the man whose impress they bear throughout their lives more than that of any of their teachers. We were also able to profit by the practical carrying out of his methods in his teaching in the wards of the infirmaries. And here again the average student felt that this minute and careful observation, this painstaking recording of facts was an arduous, and, I have no doubt many of them thought, a bootless task. But looking back upon those years, we have all felt that those scientific methods which were exemplified in Dr. Gairdner's clinical work, have been to us a life-long lesson. Dr. Gairdner's personal influence upon his students has been very great. The transparent truthfulness and sincerity of his character, the grand simplicity of his mind, have endeared him to our affections, and there are few of his old students who do not think of him with feelings of the warmest regard. (Applause.)

In this connection I feel called upon to advert to the very severe affliction which has been recently experienced by Dr. Gairdner and his family. That fact is present to all our minds, and I have no doubt that to some it may seem that this gathering is slightly incon-

gruous in view of that fact. But I have to say that it was Dr. Gairdner's own desire that his private feelings should not interfere with the arrangements which had already been made; and I think I may add that as this whole movement is an expression of appreciation, gratitude, and esteem for Dr. Gairdner, it is at this moment not incongruous, but that it is rather an added expression of sympathy with him in this time of trouble. (Applause.)

But the function of the University professor is not exhausted by his work in the class-room. To my mind the University professor should be a centre of work, should be a stimulator of those who desire to do scientific work. In that respect Dr. Gairdner has thoroughly fulfilled the functions of a University professor. With most men, as years accumulate and youth fades away into the past, the ideas are liable to get fixed, and the warm enthusiasm of youth to pass off; but I think I may freely say that, though we fondly speak of 'Old Gairdner,' yet in openness of mind, in readiness to appreciate new ideas, and to acknowledge the work of others, he is as young as any of us, and younger than most. (Applause.) All of us who have been trying to do work in Glasgow have felt the stimulus of his encouragement. We have felt the truth, the directness, the kindness of his criticism; and I personally cannot refrain from expressing my own gratitude to him in this respect. In another respect Dr. Gairdner has been of inestimable value to medical and scientific life in Glasgow. He has been a constant attendant at meetings of the medical societies, and I can scarcely express the great benefit which the tone of medical life has received from that fact. The presence of a master mind so kindly that one was not afraid to speak before him, of a man who could understand what one was saying, who could appreciate it and criticise it, that has added greatly to the advantage, to the usefulness, of

Glasgow medical life. (Applause.) Before sitting down I have only further to say that the portrait which is about to be unveiled is from the brush of Sir George Reid, President of the Royal Scottish Academy, and I believe, without anticipating your criticism, I may say that it is well worthy of that master, in fact, I think the opinion of those who can judge is, that, if not the best, it is one of the best of his productions. I have also to say, that those who have subscribed to the fund for procuring the picture will each of them receive a *mezzo-tinto* engraving by Mr. James Faed, whom I am happy to see present. The engraving is not a mere reproduction by a mechanical process, but in itself a real work of art from the hand of an acknowledged master and veteran in his difficult and delicate art.

In handing over this picture to the University I desire to say that it is offered as an expression of affection, esteem, and regard for our old teacher, and in the belief that the University will esteem it a fitting commemoration of Professor Gairdner's great services to the University, and to medical science. (The portrait was then unveiled amid loud applause.)

Principal Caird then said,—I need scarcely say, on behalf of the University authorities, that we accept with much gratification the gift which, in name of the subscribers to the portrait, Dr. Coats has offered to us. It is the portrait of one of our best and most eminent teachers, a man not only of ability of the highest order, but of singular elevation and purity of character, who has rendered incalculable service to the University during a long course of years, and whom we all delight to honour. I should only betray my own ignorance if I attempted to say anything as to the grounds on which Dr. Gairdner's scientific and professional reputation are based, of his profound and comprehensive knowledge of the various departments of medical science, of his

marvellous skill in diagnosis and success in the treatment of disease. (Applause.) But Dr. Gairdner has long passed beyond the point at which a man's reputation is confined to the circle of professional experts. It is the proud boast of this University that it numbers amongst its teachers men, of whom he is one, who are of more than European fame, and whose names are familiar as household words to multitudes of the general public as by universal admission foremost in their own departments of the realm of science. In listening some years ago to that admirable address which he delivered in this hall, as President of the British Medical Association, I remember feeling that he was unconsciously drawing his own portrait in depicting that wide range of knowledge and those varied and even non-professional attainments which went to the making of a truly accomplished physician. I cannot recall his words, but the general drift of his discourse was to this effect, that the scientific physician must know something of many branches of knowledge not strictly embraced within the technical limits of his own vocation. He must, he told us, be a scholar and a linguist, for not only did the history and the terminology of his art imply some acquaintance with the classical languages, but he must have access to the treasures of scientific research and observation which are contained in the medical literature, systematic and journalistic, of France and Germany. He must be a physicist, for whilst the living body is the seat of phenomena which cannot be explained by mechanical and chemical forces, yet the latter, as everyone knows, both directly and in their action and reaction on external environment, play a part in the economy of the living frame as indubitable and important as in the inorganic world. And, to name one other qualification, the scientific physician cannot be said to be fully equipped for the study of man's physical nature without some knowledge of the science which deals with that higher spiritual nature of which the body is but the organ and instrument, and yet whose

activities are so closely conditioned by the healthy or morbid action of the latter. Lastly, if the scientific physician is not merely a student, but a teacher of his science, he must possess that gift of sympathetic insight into the aptitudes and difficulties of younger minds, and that power of clear, concise, and fluent exposition which are indispensable in order to great success. It is not necessary for me to point out the particular application I would make of these remarks, or to show in what rare combination the qualifications I have enumerated are united in the man we have this day met to honour. (Applause.) But there are other and higher than intellectual qualities which are not always found in combination with intellectual eminence. I am restrained by Dr. Gairdner's presence from saying all I should like to say of his personal character and worth, of his conscientiousness, his candour, his high sense of duty, and of that kindliness, considerateness, and sweetness of nature which have drawn to him the respect and esteem of his colleagues and the affection of those whom he has admitted to the circle of his private friendship. (Applause.) I would only venture to add that there are cases, and his is one of them, in which the absence of display and self-assertion, the genuine simplicity and modesty of a man's nature, half conceal his intellectual eminence from those who are in daily contact with him. (Applause.) The honours that would have turned many a weaker man's head have left him as simple-minded and unpretending to this hour as at the beginning of his career. Long may he yet live to devote his talents to the service of society and to enjoy the honours he wears so meekly. (Applause.) The presentation of a man's portrait is sometimes associated with the melancholy feeling that the subject of it is regarded by the world as drawing near to the close of his career. Yet in one respect Dr. Gairdner may take this comfort from my experience that a similar honour was, however undeservedly, paid to me some ten years ago, and that I am alive to-day to tell the tale. (Applause.)

Dr. Yellowlees said,—Principal Caird, Ladies and Gentlemen, after what Dr. Coats has said, and said so well, and after what you have yourself said, Sir, with such perfect appreciation and truth, my words may be few; but this presentation would lose much of its significance if the personal element had not a very prominent place in it. His old pupils desired not only to do honour to Dr. Gairdner's professional attainments and erudition, which are rare indeed, but to personal qualities and endowments which are rarer still; and we felt that our tribute would be incomplete if his portrait were hung only on the walls of the University and had not also a place in his own home. We have therefore asked the gifted artist, whose admirable work you have just seen unveiled, to produce a facsimile of this portrait in a suitable size for presentation to Mrs. Gairdner and their family, as a further expression of our regard and affection for our honoured teacher.

I deem it a very high honour—as it is also a very great pleasure—to be the representative of Dr. Gairdner's pupils in making this presentation of the Home Portrait. The honour has been assigned to me not from personal worthiness, but because I am one of Professor Gairdner's oldest pupils, and thus one of his oldest friends, for his pupils ever found him their friend, and none more so than I. My grey hairs may seem to contradict me, but Dr. Gairdner omitted to teach me the secret of perennial youth which he enjoys. I was a prizeman in Professor Gairdner's class thirty-seven years ago, and a year later his House Physician in the old Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh. Our friendship has been unchanged and unbroken ever since and has been to me a source of pleasure and of profit during all these changing years.

Memories crowd on me as I recall those long ago days. I remember the enthusiasm of the young pathologist—I remember his appointment as Hospital Physician—I remember my own pride in my "chief," and the joy of familiar talk with him over the cases, and I remember what a

wrench it was to leave the old Royal, even at his advice, to study Insanity. I recall the glad interest of all his old friends when we learned, later on, that he was about to take to himself a closer and a dearer bride than the Medical Science to which he had been so wedded. All his friends know how bright and how blessed that union has been. A nature like his could have flowered fully only under the genial influences of married love and children's tendernesses; and I knew that he was speaking from the very heart when in congratulating me on the birth of my first-born son he wrote that he had "ever found in his own children, whether in joy or sorrow, the best gifts of a loving Father in Heaven to his rational creature on earth."

But we offer this portrait to Dr. Gairdner's home not only because of the home nature he possesses, but because his personal influence was ever, and even unconsciously to himself, so great an element in his teaching. In all his work he showed us the true philosophic spirit of modern medicine; how by minute and accurate observation the facts underlying the symptoms should be ascertained; how by nice balancing of possibilities and gradual exclusion of the impossible, errors in diagnosis could be avoided; and how by cautious and careful deduction the essential ailment could be detected, and the rational treatment defined. But he taught us far more than medicine, and it was this something more that so endeared him to us all. He taught us—by the most potent of all teaching, the teaching of daily example—that the patient was not a mere specimen of disease, but a suffering fellow creature; he taught us the sympathy and patience which all suffering demands; he taught us the painstaking care and gentleness with which every sufferer should be helped; he taught us deep reverence for life and death; and he taught us by his high Christian character, and his transparent simplicity and sincerity, that consideration for others and that love of the pure and the true and the good, which

so distinguish himself. All this he has done for forty years, and has been among his students an immeasurable power for good. Thus it is that the personal element is so prominent in our presentation to day. We honour the professor and we love the man !

I now ask you, Professor Gairdner, in the name of your former pupils, to accept from them for Mrs. Gairdner and your family, this Home Portrait. It is offered with our true and deep sympathy for the sorrow by which the home is at present darkened, with our earnest prayer that all blessing from above may rest on that home, and that you may long be spared to be its light; and in the belief that when we have all passed away, your descendants will look on this portrait with pride, and learn what manner of man he was whom generations of students thus delighted to honour.

Dr. Gairdner said,—I trust that no one of the friends now present will expect me to say that I am quite easy in my mind on this happy occasion. I feel, I assure you, the extreme difficulty of speaking adequately—or, indeed, of speaking in any sense so as to convey what I mean—in answer to remarks so highly charged with eulogy. What I have to say must to some extent be in an autobiographical and therefore a somewhat egotistic form, but I may disarm the egotism in some degree by a preliminary confession, which I make in all frankness and simplicity, for when I look back over my past career the thing that at once strikes my own mind is not what I have done, but what I have failed to do. It always appears to me that, with the grand and glorious opportunity that was presented to me as a teacher in two of the largest schools in the kingdom, I ought to have done a great deal more both for the art and science of medicine and for the communication of it to others. At the same time, I may, no doubt, claim this, that with whatever success or the contrary I may have fulfilled the function, it has been a very

straight line of life to me. It has been from the first, and has been maintained to the close, always the purpose of my life, quite definitely set forth to my own mind and adhered to with perfect and absolutely unswerving constancy from first to last. (Applause.) When a young man, or rather a boy, I thought that medicine was not the line of life I should like to follow. What was to be the line I am not quite sure that I knew myself, but I had a feeling that it would not be medicine. I do not know even now what has ruled it thus, but now that I come to look back upon the choice I think it may fairly be called a providential ruling. I hardly think that in any other line of life I could have succeeded so well. (Hear, hear.) One of the circumstances undoubtedly which was a largely-determining cause of my taking to medicine, was the fact that it was the profession of my father, a man well-remembered even now in Edinburgh, as one of the most devoted, single-minded, and absolutely just and righteous of all her many men of professional distinction. Many of the recollections of my student days crop up in my mind to-day. It is interesting to myself, at all events, to remember that some of those who sat on the benches with me, as a student, have risen to positions of distinction, and not a few of them have also filled positions as teachers. One with whom I was very closely associated throughout—we both graduated on the same day, and both gained some prizes—was Professor Struthers of Aberdeen, who is now living in retirement from his professorship in Edinburgh. I had hardly graduated in August, 1845, before an opportunity was presented to me of going to Rome with the Lord and Lady Beverley of that day, who afterwards became Duke and Duchess of Northumberland. I resided in Rome for five or six months, and can hardly express the charm of that winter—the opening out of the mind, the wonderful flow

of ideas, and bright thoughts that spring from a residence in the Empire City. It has been one of the strongest educational influences on my mind that I can point to in the course of my career. But not only did it have this general educational effect, but it was the means of bringing me in contact with many friends, of whom, I fear, very few are now left. On returning from Italy I at once tackled to hospital work, and I am not sure if I am not the only man in Scotland who can say, at this moment, that from the year 1846, when I entered Edinburgh Royal Infirmary in the capacity of house surgeon, and served for two years, until the present day—that is to say, 47 years—there has never been a break of quite three months in my service of hospital duty. (Applause.) In 1848, when Dr. Bennett obtained the chair of physiology in Edinburgh, I was at a very early age appointed pathologist to the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, and it was that appointment, as Dr. Coats has said, which laid the foundation of whatever medical knowledge I now have that is available for teaching. The very first, as this portrait is the last, testimonial which I have received as to my work was the three volumes of "Bright's Hospital Reports," which I greatly value not only in themselves—every one knows the value of that book—but because they bear on the fly-leaf the inscription, in the handwriting of Dr. Warburton Begbie—"Presented to Dr. William T. Gairdner by the gentlemen attending his first course of lectures on pathological anatomy, session 1848-49." (Applause.) Among the subordinates with whom I had to do when I was pathologist in Edinburgh were several men of distinction, some of them no longer living. I had the great satisfaction and pleasure of co-operating with Dr. Kirk, who was, and is known as the friend of Livingstone, and long Consul at Zanzibar, where he has done an immense deal to preserve right relations between this country and that portion of Africa under

British influence. Dr. Howden, Montrose, and Sir Alexander Christison were among those associated with me at that time. In 1853 I began to lecture on medicine. For the encouragement of young professors I may mention that my first class only numbered 12 students. Next year the number had risen to 52, while in the third year they were 124, which at that time was regarded as the largest extra-academical class of medicine taught in Edinburgh for many years. At that period of my career I was brought into very close contact with a dear friend, whose handwriting I now see in the volumes just mentioned, Dr. Warburton Begbie. It is one of the delights of my life to think that Begbie grew up as it were beside me; that he was my pupil in these pathological days, being two years younger; that he was my competitor but close associate also in hospital work; that he was my rival in teaching, and that during the 13 or 14 years that followed, our relations were never for a single moment strained, but always those of perfect friendship. (Applause.) In 1862 I was promoted to the chair in Glasgow, and it is not necessary that I should say any more about that, because my career in this University is fully before you. I should like to say that I am, perhaps, a typical example in some respects of the difference between a Scotch professor and a London teacher of medicine. (A laugh.) The Scotch professor is a professor to the end of the chapter, while the London man is, as a rule, only a teacher until he has got floated into such a lot of practice that he does not care to teach any more. (Applause.) It may serve to illustrate this point if I mention that at the open grave of Dr. Begbie I had a conversation with Mr. Raleigh, then manager of the Scottish Widows' Fund, who said "Suppose I were in a position to offer you the office that Dr. Begbie held as physician to the Widows' Fund, would you accept it?" The proposal thus suddenly and startlingly made was a tempting and very

striking one. Of course it was hypothetical altogether. But the answer I made at once was—"Mr. Raleigh, it is a fine and a tempting idea to succeed Dr. Warburton Begbie and to try also to succeed him in the most magnificent consulting practice that has ever been made in Edinburgh. But though you may possibly be able to offer me the Scottish Widows' Fund you cannot offer me a professorship, and you cannot offer me an hospital; and if I were to wake up some winter morning and find I had not my wards to visit and my class to teach, I should not recognize myself as being the same man." There are a good many people who, meeting me in the club about lunch time, little know that about the hardest part of my work is done before twelve o'clock. They see me reading the newspapers, and think, perhaps, that I lead, upon the whole, a very easy life. They do not quite realise that it has been a case of strong tension of mind from nine o'clock till twelve in the presence of patients in the hospital and of students in the class; they do not know anything at all, moreover, of the work that has to be done from day to day to keep the instruction up to the level that is required, for I am one of those who do not believe in repeating lectures. I never did believe in putting lectures on paper, so that they can be read session after session. (Applause.) All the lectures delivered to my class are to me a matter of great thought, carefully and freshly thought over the night before. (Applause.) These few reflections, perhaps, may be enough of a biographical kind. I hope I am not giving too solemn a cast to the present proceedings if I recall to mind that, large as the number may be of those who have been joined with you in this complimentary gift, it might have been—would have been—much larger had the many old and dear friends whom I can look back to as the pupils of my earlier years been with us now to cheer and to help us to-day. But this leads me to indulge another thought which lies very deep with me, and is entirely in accord

with other and more domestic feelings, too sacred to be dwelt upon. Those dear departed ones—almost contemporaries, but still who did not disdain to become, in a sense, pupils of mine in those early years—are they not indeed with us to-day, with us in spirit, with us in intention, with us in heartfelt sympathy with what you are doing now? Warburton Begbie, Sanders, Murchison—I will name only these three, where my memory could easily recall a score at least; and I name them because they were all men of the highest order, and bound to me through life by ties of the closest friendship. Can we suppose that, while my own heart yearns towards them on this occasion, they are altogether unconscious or indifferent as to what is happening to me? I prefer to believe, gentlemen, that these men, and many others like them, are really with us to-day. A great philosopher of the present age is held by some to have explained away all religions by resolving them in their beginnings into a belief in ghosts. I am not sufficiently well read—not enough of a philosopher—to know whether his conclusion is justified by his facts; but if it were so, what then? I will confess to you, gentlemen, and I do so in all seriousness and good faith, that ghosts—the spirits of those I have loved and honoured—are very real to me at a time like this. Ghosts have filled a large part in my life. Ghosts have lived, and still live, in my heart of hearts. Ghosts have had a great share in my best resolves, and have inspired much of any little I may have done for the good of living men. The city of Edinburgh, where I was born and brought up, is full of them in every street and at every turn. The old Royal Infirmary, where I learned medicine under Alison, Christison, and Graham, and taught it alongside of Begbie, and Keiller, and William Robertson, was haunted by the ghosts of many dear old friends as long as it lasted; and the ghosts have survived the infirmary. But these are not the ghosts that love the darkness of the night, and strike terror into weak minds. They do not "materialize" in

white gauze or stage-property dresses. They are far too real for that; and they enter far more easily into our inmost being, because they are unseen and unfelt. I do not envy the man to whom the spiritual world is so shut that he must needs have a materialized ghost to make it palpable. I remember, on one occasion, not so many years ago, that an address I gave somewhere or other called forth a response in a private letter from one who wished to convert me to a philosophy, which—to use his own words—had "abolished ghosticism"—that is, had completely done away with the whole spiritual universe, and God as the beginning and the end of it. I was not competent to argue with this gentleman, for he was far more deeply read in philosophy than I was; but I met his main proposition by saying that the one thing I could not escape from—that I felt absolutely sure of—was that I, at least, had a quite real ghost inside; and that as I did not make the universe, or even the small fraction of it known to me, it was reasonable to suppose that there were other ghosts about, not to speak of the Holy Ghost, the spirit of the living God, "in whom we also live and move, and have our being." I did not succeed in convincing this philosopher, nor he me; on the contrary, it seemed to me that he only got rid of "ghosticism" by resolving all of what we call realities into phantasms of his own personality. I mention this only to show you that, in my most settled and calm thinking, I regard spiritual things as the greatest of all realities. And this leads me back again to the business of to-day. In your very great loving-kindness, gentlemen, and in your too generous estimate of what I have done in this University, you wish to aid in handing down to posterity the memory, not, indeed, of my spiritual work, but of the frail and fleeting tabernacle in which that work was accomplished here. I am not worthy of so much devotion, but I thank you all the same. It will be an inspiring thought for

me, in what remains to me of life, that after I am gone my ghost will still inhabit these walls—not striking terror, like the stage ghost in Hamlet, but rather, I would fain hope, shedding some genial influences for good upon future generations of students. And to my dear ones, present and to come, to my family in the stricter sense of the word, it will be an heirloom and, I hope, a blessing for generations yet unborn, to look upon the features which you see here so faithfully depicted by my friend, Sir George Reid.

Dr. Quintin M'Lennan proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, and the proceedings terminated.

JOSEPH COATS,
GEO. S. MIDDLETON, } *Honorary Secretaries.*

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