

DR. OSLER AND HIS FRIENDS.

A GRACEFUL ACT AND ITS ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

The graduating classes of '85, '86 and '87 in medicine, McGill University, sent to Doctor Osler in Philadelphia recently a chronograph in gold hunting case, as a slight token of the high esteem in which he was held by them. The following letter acknowledging receipt of the above was read before a meeting of the second, third and fourth years' students in medicine yesterday:

To the Members of Classes '85, '86 and '87:

MY DEAR STUDENTS, for so you always were, and to address you so expresses my feelings still. I cannot tell you how much I appreciate your great kindness in sending the beautiful present which I have just received. I thank you for it most sincerely. But I have to thank you and your predecessors of nine classes for a present even richer and more enduring, one which I esteem above anything I possess—your confidence and your love.

The consciousness that during the ten years of my sojourn at McGill I won the esteem of the successive classes lies deep among my most cherished feelings, and shall ever be indissolubly joined in my mind with those most sacred and enduring memories of family, home and friendship. As I look into the future such a feeling is at once a comfort and a stimulus—dashed though it be at present with the thought that there was an element of ingratitude in leaving McGill, an Alma Mater so kind, students so devoted and colleagues so considerate, but this source of present worry time with its kindly friction will doubtless efface. That time which you have enabled me to measure more accurately will soon bring upon you the serious responsibilities of life and around the busy cares of practice the memories of your college days will grow dim as a dream at noon day. But there will come certain periods in your careers—of doubt, of anxiety and perhaps of mental distress—in which your thoughts will turn back to your old teachers and the effect of their influence or example will then become manifest, and if in such moments any words of mine or the influence of my work among you enables you the better to battle with difficulties within or without, my labor will not have been in vain. I remain your former teacher and ever your friend,

WILLIAM OSLER.