

ing that consumptives themselves could be induced or compelled to be isolated, and that the governments of every land could be sufficiently enlightened to provide comfortable hospitals and homes for consumptives, then when every one who now has the disease shall have passed away, the fell scourge would disappear forever from the habitation of man. As enlightened and philanthropic men let us each do our share towards limiting the area surrounding every known case in our respective localities, and we can thus save thousands from a sad and lingering death.

### THE CANADA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of this association was held at Toronto, on the 9th, 10th and 11th of September, and for several reasons deserves some mention. In the first place, it was far from being satisfactory in numbers. When we consider that it occupies, or should occupy, the same position in this country as the British Medical Association does in England, surely there should be more than eighty members present on the day of the largest attendance. In fact, there were so few members present that it was deemed inexpedient to divide up into sections, as even on two of the days, the attendance was so small that many of those who had prepared papers thought that it was not worth while to read them.

Something must be done to increase the interest in this, the principal medical meeting of the Dominion. One difficulty it labors under is that no matter where it is held, it must be a long distance for the majority to travel. On the other hand, it would give us an opportunity of knowing something more about our own great country. There are many who go to Europe who would spend their time to more advantage in visiting their own native land. Another draw-back is the very ungenerous treatment extended to it by the two railway companies. The secre-

tary informs us that he had the greatest difficulty in obtaining the concession from them of tickets at a fare and a third, while anybody and everybody was buying his ticket at two-thirds of the single fare a few days later on the occasion of the exhibition. Another draw-back to the success of the meeting when held in Toronto, is the existence of the powerful Ontario Medical Association, which meets every year in Toronto, and at whose meetings there are generally two or three hundred members present. Of course, those who attend this meeting do not attend the meeting of the Dominion Association held a few weeks later. Several ways have been suggested for remedying this difficulty, but we can hardly see any practical solution of it, except to hold the Dominion meeting at the same time as the Ontario meeting, when it is Toronto's turn to have it. Another cause of failure which could be easily remedied is the non-adherence to the laws of punctuality and parliamentary debate. The president and secretary of all meetings should be instructed on two or three essential points.

Firstly.—To be there themselves a few moments before the hour on the first day for opening the meeting and to begin proceedings exactly on time. If necessary, the number required to form a quorum might be reduced to three or four, as there is no mistake greater than waiting for the last man to come before beginning the meeting. For in that case there will be no use of the first man coming.

Secondly.—The rule, that no reader of a paper should occupy more than 20 minutes and that no one in discussion should be allowed to speak more than 5 minutes, and that no one should be allowed to speak twice on the same subject, unless in explanation, should be rigidly enforced, without fear or favor. Owing to the lack of observance of this salutary rule one gentleman occupied over an hour in reading reports of cases, while two gentlemen with