

The Canadian Journal of Medicine and Surgery

A JOURNAL PUBLISHED MONTHLY IN THE INTEREST OF
MEDICINE AND SURGERY

VOL. VIII.

TORONTO, OCTOBER, 1900.

NO. 4.

Original Contributions.

TUBERCULOUS LESIONS FROM A CLINICAL POINT OF VIEW.*

BY EDMUND OWEN, M.B., F.R.C.S.,

Surgeon to St. Mary's Hospital, and Consulting Surgeon to the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London.

Mr. President and Gentlemen,—Though the substance of the address which I have the high honor of presenting to you to-day may entirely fail to arouse in you any measure of satisfaction, yet I think I may, at any rate, claim your kind appreciation for its title. For it gives you the assurance that I am not going to ask you, even in your imagination, to pass any of this September day in that gloomy room in which Death is made to deliver up his grosser secrets: nor in that other place where, in an atmosphere of methylated spirit and oil of cloves, you are accustomed patiently to endeavor to unravel the tangled threads of morbid tissues. My remarks will deal with tuberculous lesions as the surgeon meets them day by day in hospital ward and operating theatre, and in private practice. And if I shall find occasion to ask you to go beyond these spheres, it will be to take you to some of those beautifully-placed convalescent institutions in which, when full of gratitude for having triumphed over the distress of chronic disease, or the risks which are inseparable from its operative treatment, and when full of the hope of permanently improved health, the tuberculous patient spends possibly the very happiest weeks of his life. It is, I make bold to say, a good and wholesome thing for a surgeon now and then to get clean away from pathologists and

*Being the Address in Surgery delivered at the meeting of the Canadian Medical Association, Ottawa, September 13th, 1900.