

THE CANADA LANCET

VOL. XXXVII.

OCTOBER, 1903.

No. 2

* THE SURGERY OF TO-DAY.

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Mr. President and Members of the Canadian Medical Association.

IT is a double pleasure for me to deliver this address. One is professional and the other social. In the first place, it has given me a plausible excuse to attend the Canada Medical Association a second time and profit by its proceedings, as well as enjoy the bounteous hospitality associated with it. And the very courteous invitation through my old friend, Dr. Wishart, I could not well refuse, affording me, as it does, another opportunity of meeting my old friends and college mates.

For the distinction and honor thus conferred upon me, an aberrant Canadian, I have just reason to be proud and let me assure you of my highest appreciation of it.

In selecting a subject for my discourse I had no supercilious notions of highly entertaining you, nor did I dream of assuming the role of teacher. I determined on "The Surgery of To-day," I know not why, but I did. Standing thus, between the past and future—between our inheritance, the surgery that has been done, and the work that lies before us to do—I hope you will bear with me, if I should deviate from the ever fleeting line of my subject and refer now to the one phase of it, and then speculate on the other.

Much of our surgery is empirical and not rational, and hence the opportunities for original research are great. That which has stood the test of time is retained; some of it, no doubt, will be perpetuated; while again, long cherished theories and practices must vanish in the light of new discoveries and inventions. I take it then that I have considerable license in selecting and in emphasizing what, in surgery, seems to me, to be of most importance.

In no time in medical history has surgery been as international in character as it is at present. In the processes of the development of the high grade of surgical efficiency that is now established, we find them teeming with instances of hardships in times of peace and war, of

* Address delivered at the Canadian Medical Association, London, August 25, 26, 27, 28.