

The Maritime Medical News.

March, 1890.

EDITORS:

D. A. CAMPBELL, M. D., Halifax, N.S. J. W. DANIEL, M.D., M.R.C.S., St. John, N.B.
 ARTHUR MORROW, M. B., " L. C. ALLISON, M. B., "
 JAMES McLEOD, M. D., Charlottetown, P. E. I.

Communications on matters of general and local professional interest will be gladly received from our friends everywhere.

Manuscript for publication must be legibly written in ink on one side only of white paper.

Papers of cumbrous or unnecessary length, but otherwise acceptable, will be returned for condensation.

All manuscripts, and literary and business correspondence, to be addressed to

DR. MORROW,
 ARGYLE STREET, HALIFAX.

WE wish to remind our readers that the present is a good time to commence preparing for the annual meetings of the various Provincial Medical Associations. The preparation of papers requires thought, and cannot be completed in such a way as to give satisfaction to the hearers and gain credit for the authors without the expenditure of time and trouble.

Cui bono? some one may say. We answer: good in every way; but most good to the individual who uses his talents and industry to discuss some subject which he may be specially interested in or specially qualified to elaborate and elucidate; and the benefit which accrues, is not only the increase of knowledge which his extra study and industry must afford him, but also that increase of position and prestige among his fellows, which good work is sure to bring, and which, it is unnecessary to point out, always has a direct money value.

It has often been said that there is not enough cohesion in our profession, that the members of it do not pull together, and are unwilling as individuals, to make what they may consider, any sacrifice for the benefit of the whole. There is too much truth in the assertion, and we think the fault lies, not so much with the younger members, who might naturally be expected to seize a slight present advantage without taking time to consider its ultimate result, as with the older members who enjoy assured position and practice, and allow themselves to be so absorbed in the same, that they have no time, or think they have no time, to give to the general interests of the profession. And so it is, when these men are asked to give some-

thing of their experience and knowledge for the benefit of the whole, at our annual meeting, too often the answer comes, Impossible! no time!

In other words, they have become mere slaves to practice. We would remind such however,

"Whatever day

Makes man a slave, takes half his worth away,"

and in no case more than in the one to which we are referring. No esprits de corps? There is plenty of it among us, but it requires the leaders to take a leading position, and to share the burdens as well as the honors.

In this connection we have pleasure in calling attention to the fact of the holding of a meeting between the members of the committee appointed by N. B. Medical Society, to do certain preliminary work in connection with the formation of a Maritime Medical Association, and Dr. Muir, of Truro, N. S., the Secretary of the N. S. Medical Society. An account of the meeting is given on another page. We consider the formation of such an Association to be most desirable. The Canadian Medical Association meets as a rule, too far away to be of much service to us in the lower Provinces. A Maritime Association will not interfere in any way with the various Provincial Societies, it need not meet oftener than once in two years, but it would weld the profession together, and probably result in the establishment of uniformity in qualifications to practise, in the formation of valuable acquaintances, and from the fact of having the wider and larger audiences it would have more valuable work done for it than for the Provincial, it would be a body speaking with authority for the profession of three Provinces, and would consequently have proportionate weight, both with the public and the legislature. We are convinced that there are men through these Provinces doing good work, (the pages of the NEWS bear direct evidence of this), we think it is for their benefit and for ours it should be known.

We should expect to hear at the Maritime Association, from some of the professors of the Halifax Medical College, and from other leading men through the Province of Nova Scotia, while, on the other hand, New Brunswick and P. E. Island would furnish evidence by their representatives that routine has not taken the place of enlightened study and practice. The cost of such an Association would be nothing, a dollar or two, to cover expenses of meetings, would be the sum total to each member attending. We commend this subject, not only of the Maritime Association, but also of the Provincial meetings, to our