

# Dominion Medical Monthly

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## ORIGINAL ARTICLES.

(No paper published or to be published elsewhere as original, will be accepted in this department.)

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### PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS AT MEETING OF ONTARIO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, TORONTO, JUNE 6TH, 1894.

BY L. M'FARLANE, M.D., TORONTO.

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GENTLEMEN,—I thank you for the honour you have conferred on me by electing me as your president. I feel the onus of the position more from the fact that I follow in the footsteps of a number of gentlemen who filled the position with that grace and dignity which I can scarcely hope to emulate.

We are met here to-day for the purpose of renewing old friendships and forming new ones, and to exchange views and discuss questions tending to the advancement of our profession. I hope that at this meeting the purposes mentioned will be fulfilled to the entire satisfaction of every member present. I am also very much pleased to find that a number of gentlemen from across the line have honoured us by their presence. I feel that it will be to the benefit of the Association as well as to our visitors to meet as frequently as possible in these friendly medical conferences.

It has been the custom for the president-elect to deliver an address. I must confess that I found it a difficult matter to select a subject to comply with this custom. After a good deal of thought I came to the conclusion that it might be of interest to the Association to look back over the history of medicine during the present century, and note the progress our art has made and survey our present position, and then take a look toward the future in the hope that we may obtain some slight forecast of what it may have in store for us and for our successors.

As the history of each century is written—especially medical history—we learn that the representatives of that epoch consider that they have trodden in the very best lines toward the goal of Truth; in fact, they imagine that they alone are in possession of the highest attainable science and of the best methods of investigation, even that they have, in many instances, the truth itself.