

The Canadian Journal of Medicine and Surgery

A JOURNAL PUBLISHED MONTHLY IN THE INTEREST OF
MEDICINE AND SURGERY

VOL. XIII.

TORONTO, MARCH, 1903.

NO. 3.

Original Contributions.

THE SANATORIUM—ITS IMPORTANCE IN THE CRUSADE AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS.*

BY J. H. ELLIOTT, M.B.,

Physician-in-Charge Muskoka Cottage Sanatorium, Gravenhurst, Ont.

It was with a considerable degree of pleasure that I accepted the invitation of this Association to read a paper on one of the phases of sanatorium work. To one who lives in a sanatorium, whose whole time is spent amongst cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, there is no more pleasant task than that of endeavoring to instil in both the profession and the public some of the enthusiasm which comes from seeing each year so many consumptives, who left their homes sick and suffering, returning practically well, to again take up the battle of life. I feel it indeed an honor that you have invited me from Canada to present this paper, when you have in your republic a number of excellent sanatoria, and in charge of them men of the highest standing, both amongst the profession at large and amongst their co-workers. I wish to thank you for having so kindly asked me to speak to you to-day, and I hope that something of what I may say will be of interest to you.

In tuberculosis we have a most insidious disease, and one which presents itself in a multitude of forms. Carrying off as it does millions of our fellow-men each year, we cannot but feel that we are coming short of our duty if we do not, as physicians and sanitarians,¹ press home to our municipalities, our states and provinces, that modern science has fully demonstrated its curability, the possibility of its prevention, and entire eradication. Since Koch's discovery in 1882 of the tubercle bacillus, and his able de-

* Read at the Annual Meeting of the Minnesota State Sanitary Association, St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 17, 18, 1902.