

smoothed his wrinkled front. But, again, let me express the satisfaction we feel at being able to meet here in Chatham among men we know so well, who have been so faithful to the Association, and in a section of the country in which the profession possesses so many able and industrious members.

In seeking for a theme upon which to address you, I felt that if we met in Winnipeg, some subject connected with growth and development would alone be in keeping with the remarkable progress which the North-West and its capital have made during the past decade. I thought that by tracing the lines along which the profession in a new country should advance, the meeting might perhaps help the movement and give a stimulus to thought and action, which is often one of the best effects of gatherings of this kind. When circumstances necessitated a change in the place of meeting, it seemed as if my subject, upon which I had spent some thought, should also be changed; but, on reflection, it was evident that the conditions in the older provinces were only an advanced stage of those existing in Winnipeg and Manitoba—progress should be our watchword here as there, growth and development the essential features of our professional life, and upon these topics I could as well address you in Ontario as in the North-West. I want, then, to tell you, in as few words as possible, just how far on we have got and what have been the methods of our progress. In some parts of the Dominion we may study the profession in its simplest form; in the North-West Territories, for example, it has not advanced beyond the amœba stage. The doctors there are so many unicellular creatures—masses of undifferentiated professional protoplasm, without organization or special functional activities. They cannot even exercise the rhizopodal mode of multiplication, but increase by the low inorganic method of accretion. In the older provinces, on the other hand, the professional units have combined for the general good into a sort of polypidom—the organized profession—a great advance on the amœba stage; there are also special organs of reproduction known as the medical schools, and there are signs of a nervous system—medical societies.

The three aspects, then, in the growth and development of