

I have great pleasure in drawing attention to the fact that Dr. William Bayard, of St. John, N.B., a past President of this Association, completed seventy years in the practice of medicine on the 1st day of August last and that he is still able, at the age of 93 years, to meet the wishes of many patients by ministering to their wants. His Alma Mater, the University of Edinburgh, on this 71st anniversary of his graduation showed her appreciation of his character as a man and his work as a physician by conferring on him the degree of LL.D. The circumstance is perhaps unprecedented in modern times; it is at least so, I believe, in the annals of Canadian Medicine. Although I have already, in the name and behalf of the Association, extended to Dr. Bayard the greetings and best wishes of the Association, I would suggest that now in annual session you authorize me to telegraph the renewal of our high esteem for him and sincere hope that the "eventide" may be calm and without a cloud.

#### I. REORGANIZATION.

It is just 40 years since this Association was organized. The first meeting was held in Quebec under the Presidency of Sir Charles Tupper, one who has since attained such eminence as a statesman. It is interesting to note that the first meeting was among the largest ones held by this Association—109 being present. At the second meeting, held in this city, there were 135, after that for several years the attendance never reached 100. Even of late years, compared with this first meeting, the Association has not shown the advance either in attendance or work that its founders were entitled to anticipate. However, history has but repeated itself—the higher life, intellectual and scientific, of young countries as of individuals, is always the latest to develop. It is quite possible that to the clear vision of the Fathers of this Association it was evident that its growth would be slow and subject to many vicissitudes, that it would only be after many years of painful struggling that much advance could be hoped for. They doubtless foresaw such advance could come only after the growth of culture, that is, after the conditions of the people became stable, and sufficient wealth accumulated at least to give ease, if not luxury, to many. For various reasons such a state has been slow in maturing in this country, but it may be said to have now come, at least in the older provinces. Such has been the history of the United States, where only recently science and art have made material advance, and even yet "it is the day of small things" with them in comparison with the development of the natural resources, and the growth of wealth of that country. Our history will doubtless be similar to theirs, although the indications are that our material growth will be even more rapid in proportion to the population. It is said that, although our population is