

In George Campbell we had the highest type of the earnest, painstaking, skillful, forceful Scottish surgeon.

I cannot refer to James Stewart without a feeling of filial affection. Few there are who do not miss him. Perhaps it was not his genius which made him great, but his largeness of heart, his genuine honesty, and his quiet, shrewd, Scotch commonsense. He was intensely human.

Buller was a true type of a genius—he stood in a class by himself. Brusque of manner yet within there beat a true heart open as day for melting charity.

Dr. Reddy, the busy physician, full of genuine Irish wit, F. W. Campbell, Dr. Craik, Sir William Hingston—most of them have just left us;—we cannot forget them. We would not if we could, nor could we if we would. To them the words of Robert Louis Stevenson are appropriate:

“The physician is the flower (such as it is) of our civilization: and when that stage of man is done with, and only to be remembered to be marvelled at in history, he will be thought to have shared as little as any in the defects of the period and most notably exhibited the virtues of the race.”

These were master minds in medicine, who, in their day and generation, shed lustre upon our noble art and maintained in apostolic succession the high reputation of the Montreal Medico-Chirurgical Society.

Many changes have taken place in the history of medicine in these 20 years. We live in a fast age and much is compressed in these years. These changes have been discussed before this Society,—the wonderful developments in bacteriology, in surgery, in medicine, antitoxin, the X-ray, and many other subjects. Things now are done that were not even dreamed of in previous years, and medicine has been built upon a more scientific foundation.

We have seen the advent and growth of specialism—in many ways a great advantage, perhaps, in some ways carried to extremes. Will the next 20 years see the extinction of the family doctor? I hope not. Osler puts it well when he said: “The Family Doctor, the private in our great army, the essential factor in the battle, should be carefully nourished by the schools and carefully guarded by the public. Humanly speaking, with him are the issues of life and death, since upon him falls the grievous responsibilities in those terrible emergencies which bring darkness and despair to so many households.”

Much has been learned from the pathological specimens presented; much from the papers and discussions thereon; and much from the many interesting reports of cases which, from time to time, have been brought