

At home and abroad our Maritime Province men have brought honour to their country and distinction to themselves in almost every walk of life. In Theology, in the Legal Profession, in the Arts and Sciences, in the great seats of learning they are found occupying the first places. Our public representatives hold rank second to none in the Councils of our Canadian Dominion.

And when men of this stamp are assembled together, as they are here to-day, to exchange ideas on questions that concern our profession, and to give to those questions the results of their observation and experience—no one will dispute the benefits of such meetings or the advantages that must ensue. And apart from all considerations affecting the profession in a technical sense, there is another motive for good incident to these meetings, and that is, the beneficent element of friendship and social intercourse which they engender. Those among you who have made reputations for yourselves in your own fields of practice, are brought into contact with each other, and with those more humble toilers who admire you at a distance and are proud of your successes. To the influence of the Maritime Medical Association, the profession is indebted for the boon of Medical reciprocity lately inaugurated and legalized between the Maritime Provinces of this Dominion. The old Chinese walls encircling and isolating each Province are at last pulled down, so that any Medical Practitioner registered in any one Province, may choose without hindrance that field of labor most acceptable to his choice and most favorable to his fortune. Let us hope that the good example thus set by the Maritime Provinces may be the means of bringing about the adoption of a uniform law governing the admission to study and to practice throughout the entire Dominion. The profession of Medicine occupies to-day a higher plane of importance than it ever held before. It has drawn to its ranks the brightest intellects and counts among its members the most learned men of all countries of the world. Medical science has established itself as the most essential element in the well-being of mankind and an indispensable condition in the existence of society.

The foremost statesmen of the world are lavish in their praises of the benefits of Medical Science, not only in its relations to suffering humanity but in what it has added to the material prosperity and progress of the human race. No other profession affords such a scope for the researches of the Scientist. No other Science contains such vast treasures of hidden wealth. The discovery of the germ origin of epidemic diseases