

medical profession. A greater degree of uniformity now exists, than prior to our discussions on this subject. So long as there is a diversity of interest in matters educational, difficulty will attend the bringing about of that uniformity which would be arrived at by a Dominion Medical Act. Important changes are usually slow in their development, yet we look forward to the time when we shall have one chief educational centre, so guiding and directing the medical profession of this entire Dominion, as to build up an enlightened opinion, such as the members of this Association have at heart. While recognizing the progress of medical education in each Province, and the marked ability of those active in imparting a sound medical training, we must await the spontaneous action of all, alike interested, to extend the principles of confederation we now enjoy, so as to unite us as a profession, strengthen our position as a body, and thus increase our sphere of usefulness.

There is a point to which I would now desire to call the attention of this Association; viz., the advisability of having thoroughly trained female nurses. In private as well as in hospital practice we constantly experience a great want in this respect. In each of the large cities having extensive hospital accommodation, some system might be inaugurated by which those desirous of becoming skilled nurses might avail themselves of the facilities offered, and in course of time supply a deficiency now generally felt in the practice of the profession. Such skilled nurses to obtain certificates of qualification and fitness for the position of honour and trust. Every town and city in the Dominion would gladly encourage the employment of such talent, and in that sphere woman would occupy her true position as the administerer of the prescribed medicines, capable as she is of those soothing, delicate and kindly attentions, so necessary at the sick bedside, and so cheering and gratifying to the patient. Miss Nightingale has thus fully expressed her ideas :