

Dr. Mewburn, of Stamford, addressing the meeting, stated that as Dr. Widmer had called the Profession together, although prevented from attending by indisposition, it was due to him that his name should appear as their President. This proposition was seconded by Dr. Lowe, of Darlington.

Dr. McQueen, of Brockville, then moved, seconded by Dr. Grant, of Yorkville, that Dr. Mewburn be appointed Deputy Chairman.

Dr. Smythe, of Brockville, moved, seconded by Dr. Badgley, of Toronto, that Dr. Melville do act as Secretary.

The Secretary then read a note from Dr. Widmer, announcing his illness, as also several letters from medical men, apologizing for their absence.

The Chairman then stated that as Dr. Widmer had sent an Address which he had prepared, he should direct the Secretary to read it, which was accordingly done.

GENTLEMEN,—It would have been more agreeable to me if one of the younger members of the profession had come forward on the present occasion to invite your attention to the importance of exerting ourselves by a combined effort for ameliorating the condition of the practitioners of medicine in this part of the Province.

Permit me to acknowledge thankfully the courtesy which has prompted so many of you to comply with my request, to assemble for the purpose of deliberating on the subject.

I could not, I am convinced, have proposed for your consideration a matter more worthy of it, or one which would be more likely to secure your best attention. I hope, therefore, the results of our conference will be such as to prove to the public at large that we entertain a desire to elevate the standard of professional character, and by such means to secure and confirm that confidence and respect without which the practice of medicine is vain and unprofitable. I shall not intrude on your time further than to assure you I have stated fully and freely in the letter published convoking this meeting, the motives which actuated me in taking such a step, as well as the reasons why Toronto was selected as the point of assembling. I do this because I learn with regret an impression has gone abroad that the practitioners resident in this city seek to secure for themselves a monopoly of control in the affairs of the contemplated corporation. I can assure you that such an opinion is unfounded and unjust, and I think that every one attending here from the country will return to their respective constituencies with minds completely satisfied that the metropolitan practitioners are consistent and earnest in their desire to promote the general welfare. If it happens that the fortuitous circumstances of Toronto being the capital of the Province, and possessing Schools of Medicine, as well as being the place of meeting of the present Medical Board, should have been brought more prominently before the public practitioners who reside here, and who are all more or less concerned in these institutions, surely this will be recognized to be the natural and usual result of such combined causes. It will be admitted, I think, that such a result is far from objectionable, nay, is indispensable to the efficient working of any association that we may be successful in establishing. It is not to be supposed that the country practitioner can always conveniently leave his