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Original Articles

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS*

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If I had considered the high honor and responsibility awarded me by the Canadian Medical Association at our meeting in Edmonton last year, I should perhaps have declined the flattering tribute, as much from consciousness of my own inability to fulfill the distinguished position in a manner satisfactory to myself, as from a sense of what is eminently due to the scientific and high professional character of this national Association. However, inadequate as the discharge of my obligations of office may prove to be, I am emboldened by the support of my local colleagues, and the encouragement of numerous members throughout the Dominion, to rely upon your indulgence for whatever is stale and unimportant, or for whatever may be defective in the manner of my address to-night. It has been the practice of my predecessors in office to sweep the whole horizon of Canadian medicine for objects worthy of the attention of this Association. I plead for the liberty to say painful truth when dealing with matters that affect the honor of our profession, and it is not from love of wounding or pleasure of stinging that I am dealing boldly with professional defects and offences. I would rightly merit the contempt of you all did I pass these things by on the other side.

The first thing to challenge our attention is the relative indifference shown to this Association and what it represents by too many of the eight thousand doctors in the Dominion. The Association has had no mean part in removing narrow, provincial medical prejudices and in bringing about legislation that resulted in the accomplishment of Dominion registration. The splendid service of the British Medical Association to the profession of the

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