

will not be attained through teasing inopportunities. At the same time, a gentlemanly recognition of our brotherhood might at times be peculiarly acceptable. If the Society should determine upon a system of Annual Addresses, a special invitation on such occasions to the various medical gentlemen in our vicinity, might be received as a graceful compliment.

In concluding, I may remark that it is a practical question of some difficulty to determine, to what extent the Society should, at the present time, consistently with propriety, assert itself as an exponent of medical opinion in this Province, and obtrude itself generally upon public attention. The existence of our Society has not yet been recognized even by our City almanacks; and yet bodies not more important, if more pretending, find a place in these treasuries of local information. Now, although modern civilized society is by no means troubled with a general plethora of modesty, yet it is possible that even this rare and valuable moral quality may be concentrated at certain points to a degree little short of positive congestion. It may be wise, then, that some attention should be paid to passing events in the world around us, in order that fitting occasions may be embraced, upon which our existence and position as a Medical Society, may be properly asserted.

I had intended to touch upon the advantages to the Society, the profession, and the public, of having established a system of registration of births and deaths, the necessity of having the medical topography of the Province, to some extent, explored, the utility of some acquaintance with its medical flora, and the aid which our Society might contribute in reference to these points, by encouraging medical gentlemen in various parts of the Province to join the Society, who might act chiefly as corresponding members, but I feared that your patience would be already exhausted.