

intermeddles with all knowledge. Let us have courage to follow wherever truth may lead the way, and we shall always be safe. Our Association contemplates the development of truth as it exists in dental science, and we have before us an important field to harvest. In some respects, we will reap the fruit of those who have toiled in this field before us, and have sown broadcast around them the precious seed which now waves as a golden harvest. In other respects, we are in a field of undeveloped thought. We are following a lead that will open up a new mine of professional treasures. Some of us come, picking up the precious grains which have been left unnoticed by others. But, let our relative positions be what they may, there is work enough for us all. We do not all excel in the same specialty. We do not all take equal interest in the same class of operations. Our peculiar genius and habits fit us for some one class of operations better than another. Some can scarcely endure the laboratory ; they prefer the operations of the chair. Others, following the bent of taste and of inclination, prefer dental mechanics. And this is well. Let each one follow the department best suited to his taste, and he will find that in such a sphere he will surely win distinction. But in our Association we bring together our various contributions, and we are all enriched together. In coming together thus, bringing with us the results of our varied experiences, and in the true spirit of professional courtesy and brotherhood, one result must certainly follow, to wit : the elevation of our noble profession as a whole, and our individual status. But, in order that we may reap the full benefit of this Association, it is quite important, it seems to me, that a strong effort should be made by all its members to see that it is enriched with elaborate papers on different branches of dental science.

Gentlemen, let us labor to this end. Let us leave such footprints behind us that those who come after us shall feel that we have not lived in vain. Perhaps I should apologize to you for detaining you so long from the business of this convention by my somewhat incoherent address ; but, throwing myself on your indulgence, I beg to express my fervent desire that we may live to see this, the British Columbia Dental Association, eminently successful and prosperous.