

the same time, to so guard the complicated nervous machinery of the human system as to preserve health and strength, and develop the pabulum of thought to meet the wants and requirements of an exacting age. Owing to the progress in brain knowledge within the last thirty or forty years, we look forward with great hopes to the outcome of this twentieth century, during which many of the principles presented on the present occasion will doubtless be established on a sound and substantial basis. Throughout let that idea guide and direct our efforts with the hope that the charming words of Wordsworth may be fully realized :

“ In the unreasoning progress of the of the world,
A wiser spirit is at work for us,
A better eye than ours.”

MEDICAL REMINISCENCES OF TORONTO.

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MY recollections of “Muddy Little York,” date back to the early thirties of the last century, my father having brought the family there from Presque Isle,—my birthplace in 1823 to York in 1826. My maternal grand father, John Dennis, had his homestead, with a few acres of orchard and garden, on the north-east corner of King and Yonge Sts., and my father, about 1832 (I cannot state the exact date) built a residence on the west side of Bay street near the place now occupied by the National Club. Although there were scattered residences beyond, the town might be said to be bounded by Bay street on the west and by Newgate, now Adelaide street, on the north. At such an early age my experiences were very necessarily limited. Between the ages seven to nine, I was a terrible sufferer from inflammatory rheumatism in my legs, followed by “strunous inflammation of the eyes,” toddling round for a long time on crutches, and with my eyes protected by green goggles—I mention this fact because I consider that my illnesses were protracted on account of my treatment being conducted in accordance with the prevailing anti-phlogistic theory; rheumatism and phlyctenular ophthalmia were regarded as “inflammatory,” and as all inflammatory diseases were treated “anti-phlogistically,” I underwent the usual processes of purging, blistering and bleeding, and here on my arms now are five distinct scars from venesection, resorted to at that time.

There are two circumstances which I remember of this time, which, although trivial in themselves, may be of interest.