

introduction of a tariff to suit our own commercial needs, the despatch of our troops to South Africa on our authority, our right to be represented in international questions affecting our own country, are some of the fruits harvested from Canadian patriotism.

In our complex civilisation, there are many elements that contribute to the growth and prosperity of our country, but what factors have done so much for us, during the last seventy or eighty years, as the development of a strong national spirit, and of confidence in ourselves, to work out our own destiny. These have given us contentment and prosperity at home, and deepened our loyalty to our Empire. Our national aspirations have so challenged the attention of the old world that whereas, a century ago, for one emigrant that left its shores for Canada, hundreds if not thousands left for the United States. To-day immigration is pretty evenly divided between our neighbors and ourselves. No longer are the United States looked upon as the only home of freedom. Even our astute cousins have learned that Canadians have been able to evolve just as fine a brand of liberty as their own, and that we have a somewhat freer scope for its growth, hence the great emigration from the Western States into our new Provinces.

In the above paragraphs we have reviewed the influences that have contributed most largely to our political and commercial prosperity. We come now to review our medical history to see what influences have affected its progress. Quite a large percentage of our pioneer physicians came out here in association with political or military officials. These brought with them their British literature and methods of practice. They were, as a rule, not only skilful practitioners, but also cultured and courtly gentlemen. Their impress has been felt in Canadian medicine ever since. Each year a goodly number of our students cross the ocean to get British degrees or titles, and many of our medical men go over in order to visit the hospitals and renew acquaintances. Now most of us are thankful for the example of British physicians, and for the benign influences of its literature and methods of practice, yet the fact remains absolutely true, that it is not in the best interests of either the individual, profession or nation to be simply a slavish imitator of any model, however excellent it may be. The moment we Canadians become satisfied with the British or any other system, we draw the dead line of our progress. We become in the exact position of the traveler who has reached the summit of the mountain. To us, in our self-satisfied state, as to him, all roads lead downwards. Patriotism and self-reliance are just as essential factors in medical as in national progress. I yield to no one in my admiration for the courtly, cultured British physician and surgeon, or for what British medicine has accomplished, yet I know of no reason why we should not, at least, attempt to grow as high a type of man, and