

gency. Some nights back he gave a dinner to a large number of the Fellows at the Thatched House Tavern, at which we were present, and where the tendency altogether was calorific. At the right of the president sat Dr. Clutterbuck, whom I had the pleasure of hearing speak. He is the present father of the Society, and upwards of 80 years of age in full possession of all his faculties. You might suppose that the duties of the president of the Medical Society are solely to preside at its meetings, but such is not the case, he has to preside at the annual dinner and give the toasts, and moreover one of his especial privileges is to give several dinners during the winter to the active and influential fellows of the Society. These bring the president and fellows into frequent and agreeable communication with one another, the office therefore is much sought after by the older fellows, and is looked upon as one of the greatest honours our profession can confer.

I must not omit to mention, that, at a recent meeting of the Medical Society, Dr. Fraser, of Montreal, and Dr. Marsden, of Quebec, were elected corresponding Fellows; an announcement, I am sure, which will be received with pleasure by their numerous friends. They make five Canadian physicians in all, who have been thus honoured; and the Society is very chary of electing any, unless persons of some standing and position in the profession, or who have distinguished themselves in medical science.

Of the solids and fluids consumed by all classes of her Majesty's subjects, none are in such demand as sugar; it is not only very scarce but very dear, and many of the lower orders can only purchase it in very small quantities. This scarcity is believed by many political economists as likely to continue some years. Now it is a question worth considering, whether the sugar of the maple might not be exported from Canada with advantage to the manufacturer; but in a granular or crushed form, and deprived of its colour, to some extent. I merely throw out the suggestion which some may think worthy of consideration. Looking at the point in a physiological sense, I believe the deprivation of sugar among the lower classes likely to be followed by general emaciation, and a tendency to many of the exhausting diseases, especially *chronic pulmonary complaints*.

I have endeavoured to show, elsewhere, and I think satisfactorily, that the great source of combustible fat in the economy is a proper supply of sugar, and although we may already have a good deal of inherent sweetness in our composition, a supply from without is a matter of necessity, and at the present time one of anxiety.