

ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS, ONTARIO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, 31ST MAY, 1911.

By H. R. CASGRAIN, M.D.

MEMBERS of the Ontario Medical Association,—I must thank you sincerely for the honor you have done me in electing me, for two consecutive years, to the highest office in the gift of this association. I wish, further, to thank those who have labored with me in the work of the association, at the sacrifice of much valuable time and the expenditure of no small amount of effort, in order to make these annual meetings a success. We have to present to you this year a rich and varied program for a portion of which no small thanks is due our medical brethren of the great neighboring republic. To them I extend a hearty welcome from this association. They are, in reality, part and parcel of ourselves, inasmuch as medicine recognizes no national boundary. In extending to them the invitation to address us, we recognize the great work that is being accomplished in the domain of medicine and surgery in the United States.

In reviewing the progress of medicine for the past two years, we note that while the results of research and observation on internal diseases have presented little that can be called spectacular, much of practical importance has been accomplished, and at least one or two striking discoveries have been announced. Within the time under consideration we have the vaccine method of treating typhoid fever. It is probably too soon to pronounce as to the merits of this mode of treatment, yet, according to Anders (*Jour. Amer. Med. Assoc.*, Dec. 10, 1910), the value of vaccine for the following purposes must be conceded: (1) As a means of prophylaxis; (2) in suitable cases when continued during convalescence, to prevent relapses; (3) to combat local infections with the typhoid bacillus, as, for example, bone suppurations which arise in the period of convalescence; (4) for the removal of typhoid bacilli from the feces and urine in the case of typhoid carriers.

Syphilis.—During the past year numerous papers dealing with salvarsan, generally known as "606," have appeared. This is probably the greatest discovery that has taken place in the domain of medicine for probably the last decade. The papers published in regard to its effects have been numerous and optimistic. Granting that the tone of medical opinion has been too optimistic, there yet remains little doubt that remarkable results will be obtained from this mode of treatment.

It would require too much time to enumerate in detail the progress that is being made in the various branches of medicine. While, as has