

appear successful, from the pecuniary standpoint, as represented in an expensive residence, automobile, or groom with high-stepping horse, not to mention the ambitious aspirations that beguile so many into the maelstrom of politics—has fatally impaired in altogether too many promising young medical men that noblest of all ambitions, high professional attainments. The apathy displayed by the profession in general, towards this movement, has become so profoundly chronic that not a few of its earlier advocates have about lost all hope in its accomplishment. These disconsolate souls should gather inspiration from the spring poet, who says :

“The time to succeed is when others,  
Discouraged, show symptoms of tire.  
The battle is fought on the home-stretch,  
And victory won 'twixt the flag and the wire.”

To spare the time of the reader and to conserve space in the crowded pages of this journal, I shall endeavor to discuss, as briefly as possible, the question of establishing a Canadian Academy of Medicine from two standpoints only : (I.) Its national, and (II.) its scientific importance.

#### ITS NATIONAL IMPORTANCE.

The sentiment I wish especially to emphasise under this head is that patriotic one, which is expressed, if not classically, yet very effectively, by the term “Made in Canada.” The history of our country furnishes a splendid object lesson in patriotism—one that should certainly stimulate every physician interested in this movement. From the Conquest on down into the earlier decades of the last century, the majority of our ancestors believed that they could show their devotion to the mother country by implanting her laws and by closely imitating her customs. The result was that many Imperial officers, sent out here, were allowed to surround themselves with a coterie of favorites and rule about as despotically as a Russian autocrat. However, the nineteenth century was yet young when the bracing atmosphere of Canada and the hardships of pioneer life began to evolve a virile type of Canadian manhood. This sturdy class saw with clear, wise, brave, prophetic vision that if ever Canada was to deserve the respect of the British people, and to take her proper place in the estimation of other nations, she could only accomplish it by initiating and cultivating a patriotic spirit, and by establishing a government directly responsible to the people. The story is soon told. It took a rebellion to put down the autocracy, and on its ashes arose responsible government. In due time followed the union of the separate Provinces into a vast Dominion, extending from ocean to ocean and embracing the larger portion of the North American continent. The