

MEDICAL SCIENCE

VIDEO MELIORA PROBOQUE

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INTRODUCTION.

HOW different the distracting fears, the apprehensions of failure, the scarce dared expectations of success of the *débutante*, from the calm, self-confident attitude of a *mest्रो*, in appearing before a critical public who pay for their pleasure and expect their desires to be gratified! Somewhat of the fears of the *débutante* afflicts us as with a fervent desire to attain to our ideal, to accomplish a worthy task, we launch a new enterprise and invite the patient attention and generous forbearance of a cultivated medical public, while we state succinctly several reasons why MEDICAL SCIENCE has been evolved and begun to exist. Mingled with our fears we indulge in the hope that something of the experience and finished grace of the master may gradually become ours, associated as well with his success as a suitor for public recognition.

Meehan says in *Variations in Nature*: "Nature knows primarily only the individual. This individual is made to reproduce itself after a short term of life, but with some general resemblance; yet each individual varies from its parent, some in one direction, some in another, the object of this variation being to reach some harmonious result far away in the future." MEDICAL SCIENCE is but a new individual varying from its parents, but, we trust, bearing a close family resemblance. Mr. Darwin has said that while "variability is not an inherent and necessary contingent" of existence, yet variation is due to the direct action of the conditions of life: to use and disuse, etc. Thus

we are taught that the individual inevitably varies in some degree from the parent since the conditions of life never remain the same; and, if MEDICAL SCIENCE proposes to vary somewhat the routine practiced by other Canadian medical journals, it may fairly be said that the variation is simply the logical outcome of the laws of growth and evolution. In the past, medical journals in Ontario have been the exponents of some *proprietary* School of Medicine, with the evils, as well as the advantages, incident to such a connection. Contemporary with the appearance of MEDICAL SCIENCE, we can say that, for the first time in the history of Canadian medical literature, a medical faculty, on a far wider basis than was possible in the past, has been established. Though in some respects "a beam in darkness," our fervent prayer is "let it grow"! Medical (educational) facilities, due to governmental action which deprived the Provincial University, in 1853, of her Medical Faculty, have hitherto, while doing the most possible under the circumstances, been of necessity largely limited to the narrow course which a purely curative system, or *ars medendi*, demands. Even though "Science moves, but slowly, slowly," still, as Galileo said of the earth, "*It does move.*" and Medicine, as the cynosure of all the sciences, advances too. The brilliant Semmola has recently said, "To-day the duty of the physician who wishes to be the real pioneer of scientific medicine is that of applying all the great truths of the past to the bright laws of