

CANADA
MEDICAL & SURGICAL JOURNAL

DECEMBER, 1879.

Original Communications.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS AT THE MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY OF MONTREAL.

By R. P. HOWARD, M.D., ETC.

Prof. of Practice of Medicine, McGill University; President of the Society.

GENTLEMEN : — Upon a previous occasion, when your kindness placed me in this chair, I expressed the opinion, as well as entertained it, that the honor came in the order of seniority,—now, alas, no room for doubt remains on that point, and while I cannot but thank you most graciously for the respect paid to my gray locks, in your asking me to preside at your meetings, neither can I forget that my special qualification for the duty is largely dependent upon the color of those locks. Should my conduct in the chair during the year not give evidence of the wisdom that ought to be the crown of gray hairs, let me bespeak your kind forbearance and sympathy for the man, and your loyal and courageous support for the chair.

During the seven years that have elapsed since my last occupancy of this chair, your Society has not been idle, and I can congratulate you upon the amount and the character of the work it has done. Many of the papers that have been read before it have given proof of much painstaking in the observing and recording of the symptoms and signs of disease. Some of them have been very useful as well as interesting in bringing to the notice of the members important improvements in the