

to light and acted upon, with the full weight of the parent society, as being the expression of opinion of the profession of this Dominion. In England the Branch Associations are regarded as forming the strength of the Society, and the experience of our brethren on the other side of the Atlantic in this matter may well be taken advantage of by us in Canada.

The British Medical Association has but recently celebrated its jubilee, and we in Canada might be fast approaching the fiftieth year of our existence but for the unfortunate disagreement of those who had the matter in hand. It may not be known to all, and I place it on record because the sources of information are fast disappearing from amongst us. Nearly all the actors in that drama, which culminated in the city of Montreal on the 20th August, 1845, have passed to their rest. I must premise by stating that at that time in matters medical, the profession of this country was governed by an Act or Ordinance passed in the 28th year of the reign of His late Majesty King George III. This was felt to be a grievance, as the profession had slight recognition and no protection. In fact, we were without legislative recognition of any kind as affecting portions of the country which as individual towns or districts had no existence when the said Act or Ordinance became law. With a view of obtaining legislative powers and of advancing the general interests of the profession in united Canada, the various societies throughout Canada, at the suggestion of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Montreal, appointed delegates, who met at Montreal on the 20th of August, 1845. For we find the following record on the minutes of that Society :

“ At a meeting of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Montreal, held on the 21st July, 1845, the following resolution was unanimously adopted : Moved by Dr. Badgley, seconded by Dr. Crawford, ‘ That delegates be now selected by the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Montreal to meet those to be named by the Quebec, Toronto and Niagara District Medical Societies, said meeting to be held in this city on the 20th August, 1845, to adopt measures for the foundation of a Provincial Medical Association, the formation of by-laws for its governance, and the