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Original Communications.

CANADIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Delivered at the Meeting of the Canadian Medical Association, held in Ottawa, September, 1892.

BY JOHN L. BRAY, M.D., F.R.C.S.K., CHATHAM.

GENTLEMEN,—Allow me in the first place to offer you my most heartfelt thanks for the great honour you have conferred on me in electing me President of the Canadian Medical Association; and while I appreciate your kindness and feel proud of the distinction, the high honour only makes me more conscious of my inability to fill the position with credit to the profession and satisfaction to myself. Following as I do my immediate predecessor, Dr. Roddick, only makes this more obvious. But I trust you will extend to me a helping hand, and at the same time shut your eyes to my deficiencies.

Now, I am not going to deliver a scientific address on medicine or surgery, as that duty has been delegated to those much better able to perform the task than I am; but will take instead a review of Medical Education and the advances made in that direction since the birth of this Association twenty-five years ago; secondly, say something about Medical Reciprocity between the Provinces and the barriers that now exist to prevent this, and how they may be removed; and thirdly, the influence that this Association ought to exert, not only over the medical profession, but

also over the public from one end of this great Dominion to the other. And what time could be more fitting or what place more appropriate for such a retrospect? We meet to-day to celebrate our silver anniversary, in Ottawa, the capital of our country, on this the twenty-fifth anniversary of its birth. What memories are recalled by a few—and, oh! how few they are—that were present when this Association was formed a quarter of a century ago. What changes have taken place since then! The magnificent building we now occupy was not then erected. The city of Ottawa was only a city in name; and of the noble men in our profession who were instrumental in forming this society, how many have gone to their long home, and are forever at rest from the cares and anxieties of this world! The reaper Death has year by year since that time been cutting down first one and then another of our members, without regard to age, ability or position. Since our last meeting we have to mourn the death of Dr. James Ross, who so ably presided over our deliberations two years ago, in Toronto, whose kindly smile and friendly greeting we miss to-day, from whose large experience we have all more or less profited, and whose wise counsels we would all do well to follow. But we have with us to-day Sir James Grant, Dr. Hingston, Dr. Fenwick and perhaps a few more who were present at the birth of this Association.

When we see how our country has grown and developed since that time, it is sad to think that this society has not kept pace with the Dominion, and I trust the remarks made by Dr. Roddick in