

it is a good deal better for the profession that the father of the family should pay the hospital two or three dollars a week for the care of his child than that he should take food from the mouths of his little ones to pay a doctor's bill, which at the best could not be in any degree adequate to the services rendered. Take the cases, too, which need special services—the obscure skin disease, obstinate affections of the nervous system, cases requiring delicate operations; a majority of these have already paid a general practitioner a fair fee before applying to hospital. Instead of saying that our charities are abused by such people, I maintain that they are not used enough, and are not sufficiently taken advantage of by the general practitioners. The golden rule in the practice of medicine makes the interest of the patient the first consideration, and so soon as the physician is puzzled, or finds the case to be obscure, or not progressing well, instead of straining a family in straitened circumstances—distraining, I would call it—by a consultant's fee, he should send the patient to a hospital. If the patient can pay something for the accommodation well and good, if not well and good; to help such is the truest form of charity. I am not speaking, remember, of the absolutely poor, but of the relatively poor and the improvident, upon whom sickness comes as a terrible trial. In relieving these people of their obligations to the profession by placing them in more skilful hands, or where the nursing is better, the physician only does his duty, though it may be at a pecuniary loss.”

ONTARIO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Ontario Medical Association will be held in Toronto, Wednesday and Thursday, June 19th and 20th. At least such is the present intention of the committees which are making the necessary arrangements. The dates have been chosen with the object of preventing the meeting from clashing with others, especially that of the American Association, which will be held during the first week in June, and that of the Railway Surgeons, which will be held during the second week of the same month.