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## Original Communications.

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### PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS—"THE PASSING OF THE SURGEON" IN TORONTO.\*

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*Gentlemen of the Toronto Medical Society:*

Since your courteous and self-sacrificing natures have put me in the President's chair, it would ill befit the present occasion if I did not most heartily thank you for the honor—for honor I esteem it—conferred upon so humble a member of our fraternity in placing me as you did in this unsought-for position.

Were I to give a history of the medical profession in Toronto I fear that my prolixity would weary you. I therefore shall try to give you a few pen pictures of "The Passing of the Surgeon," describing, with as much brevity as the occasion will permit, some of the men who attained to a degree of prominence in surgery in Toronto—and see if we may not learn some lessons from a study of their lives. "Lest we forget; lest we forget!"

It will be interesting to you to know that the profession in this city has always been held in high esteem, and deservedly so. As far back as 1850 Clarke Gamble writes: "My opportunities of forming a correct opinion of the medical confraternity during the period referred to are, in consequence of my position very good, nay, excellent; and I can bear clear unequivocal testimony to them as a class. And I assert that nowhere could be found a better educated, more skilful, kind,

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\*President's address at the opening meeting of the Toronto Medical Society, October 3rd, 1901.