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PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.*

By T. T. S. HARRISON, M.D., SELKIRK, ONT.

My first duty, as well my pleasure, is to thank you for the honour you have done me in placing me in this position, an honour as unexpected as it was unsought. In fact, I might well have great misgivings as to my ability to fill it, for I need not tell you the mantle of my many able predecessors has not fallen on my shoulders, and I should not have accepted it had I not felt that I could rely upon your assistance and indulgence.

The subject of my address has been one of grave consideration. I might have taken the history of medicine or surgery, but it is trite, and has been worn threadbare. The history of the developments and improvements during the last one, two or three decades in this age of books and journals, is the property of the whole profession, especially of those who take enough interest in its progress to attend this meeting. It was with a good deal of diffidence that I took as my theme my personal experience and observations in medicine, extending over upwards of half a century.

Over fifty-seven years ago, with my father, the late Dr. Harrison, I settled near the shore of Lake Erie. The country at that time was an unbroken forest, with merely a thin and scat-

* Read before the meeting of the Canadian Medical Association at St. John, N.-B., August, 1894.