

remains the still greater one of so presenting it as to be deserving of your attention. Following after so many eminent predecessors, it is, I can assure you, no false modesty, but a sense of genuine incapacity for the task which has been constantly present with me.

It may not be amiss, on an occasion like the present, to take a hasty survey of the general standing and prospects of the profession in the Dominion, and to consider whether it be progressing as it should. In a young country like this, progress is exceedingly rapid in almost every department of life—in trade and commerce and agriculture—in the building of cities and the opening of great lines of railway, extensive systems of telegraphy, and other public works on a commensurate scale—in the establishment of public schools and the foundation of universities—in the consolidation of the professions and giving them their proper status—and a comparatively few years works changes which are rapid indeed in comparison with the more steady ways of older and more settled parts of the world. When we think that the Confederation, just like this Association of ours, is only even now of age,—that, up to that time, we were but a few weak provinces, with diverse interests, and without any common bond—and that to-day, only twenty-one years later, we are a vigorous and lusty young nation with territories extending across a whole continent and touching on either side the two great oceans of the world, territories with a climate of the most varied and salubrious character, containing vast riches and unbounded possibilities for the present and for future generations—territories which are rapidly increasing in population by natural increment and by the yearly addition of many thousands of settlers from other lands—when we consider all this, it well concerns us to ask, What has been the record of the medical profession during this time? It has been a time of wonderful activity in all the centres of learning. A time during which an almost entire revolution has been wrought in the science of medicine and in the methods adopted for the teaching of the same. A time during which the keenest minds have been directed to the elucidation of innumerable problems in those sciences