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## Original Articles

## THE OLD AND THE NEW GYNECOLOGY.\*

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When I received the cordial invitation from your Secretary to address you for a few minutes on a theme which may seem to be somewhat hackneyed, I hesitated long before accepting the honor; first, because of my aversion to public speaking, and secondly, because I could not seem to hit upon a topic of general interest. Finally, I concluded that, since I had been engaged in special work for just twenty-five years, under conditions that favored a thorough acquaintance with the many changes which have occurred in obstetrics and gynecology during that period, you would pardon me if I ventured to gather up the tangled threads of my personal experience and give them to you for what they may be worth. Such a paper must necessarily be of a rambling character, because the field is too vast to cover in one, or in several, evenings.

I cannot help contrasting the present relations of my fellow-countrymen with our brothers "across the border" with those which existed a quarter of a century ago. Then we were strangers, distant and reserved; now we are indeed colleagues and friends. Our hearts are still filled with the same grief which saddens yours. We wept with you over the grave of the "Peacemaker," that kind and gentle spirit, a true democrat, but "every inch a king," who did so much to remove ancient prejudices and to make us all feel

<sup>\*</sup>Read before the Canadian Medical Association, June 3, 1910.