THE

MONTREAL MEDICAL JOURNAL.

Vol. XXI.

Original Communications.

OBSERVATIONS OF THE PROGRESS OF SURGERY IN OUR OWN DAY. *

BY DONALD MACLEAN, M.D., DETROIT.

The multiplicity of associations for the study and advancement of the many departments of science is one of the most striking and, I may add, most valuable features of the age in which we live. The marvellous improvements in the facilities for travelling have rendered this possible, so that surgery, not less than many other departments of modern science and art, is deeply indebted for its unprecedented advancement in our day, to the practical applications of that particular form of motion commonly called steam.

Not to do more than mention the production and dissemination of surgical literature thereby made practicable, the possibilities for personal contact and the interchange of opinions and experience, supplying and sustaining in ever-increasing degree the mighty stimulus of emulation, which have been secured to us through the beneficent power of steam, even we of the generation, who have seen and known all about it, sometimes I think fail to fully realize. Medical Associations as we have them, were not possible in former generations, and while many and various influences have combined to secure the unprecedented advance, which no one can deny that surgery has made in our day, my firm belief is that the union and communion between

Read at the meeting of the Canadian Medical Association, Ottawa, Sept. 22, 1892. 26