

It was with no assumed feelings of humility that I expressed at our previous meeting, at Montreal, my lively sense of the responsibility of the duties that devolved upon me, performed with such marked distinction by my worthy predecessors. I trust that my efforts, however inadequate, will not flag in the accomplishment of what is right and best for that *noble profession* in which we should be, in the strict sense of the inspired words, "members one of another." We have a common estate in the science of medicine. We have a good work before us, and we do well to acknowledge our unity and activity in promoting, by these annual meetings, a oneness of feeling in the profession of the Dominion, and the advocacy of medical science in its most progressive form; side by side with the high-toned and intellectual members of the American Medical Association, alike interested in the advancement of medical science on this continent. Relying on the spirit which prompted you to confer on me the highest honour within the gift of the medical profession of this Dominion, I shall endeavour to discharge the duty as your presiding officer, in this position of trust and responsibility. Knowing, as I do, the great value of time in our short sessions, and how much work is expected to be accomplished, I shall confine my remarks more especially to the appropriate subjects of the occasion. At our previous meetings much time was occupied in the discussion of a Dominion Medical Act, an able draft of which was presented by Dr. R. P. Howard of Montreal. After a lengthy debate, the conclusion arrived at was that this measure should rest *pro tem*. That the Medical Profession of the Dominion should be united by an Act in the Commons, is a point warmly and zealously advocated by many of the ablest members of our profession. By the Confederation Act, unfortunately all matters pertaining to Education, as well as to public health, do not come within the jurisdiction of the