

family secrets. He is the friend in adversity, the counsellor in time of need. If mishap or disgrace invade the family circle the trusted physician is the first to be consulted. How necessary then for the full exercise of discretion and retinence. How dangerous is the babbler. Remember then the oath you have this day taken ; cautiously, honestly, with prudence and chastity pursue your honorable calling.

I may here remark that a proposal has come semi-officially to the profession of this Dominion to join the ranks of the British Medical Association by becoming members of that Society. The objects of that Society are in every way beneficial to the best interests of the profession, the advancement of scientific knowledge, and the elevation of the standard of medical education. I have no doubt the proposal will be seriously entertained by the profession of the Dominion at the next annual meeting of the Canada Medical Association, to be held in the city of London, Ontario, in September next. It is very desirable that the profession in this country should receive that recognition from the institutions of the Mother Country which is its due. It would appear as though the dawn were breaking in our clouded horizon, and although we may not expect to be placed on the same footing as the older institutions of Great Britain, we may hope that we will not continue to occupy the anomalous position we do at present. My chief object in referring to this matter is to call your attention more especially to the existence of this our national association, to which all members of the profession ought to belong. But more than this, it is much to be desired that branch societies should be established in all the sections of this country. We must be up and doing ; medicine is a progressive science ; there is a large field open to each one of you for observation, and in observing remember that you must not hide your light under a bushel, but seek to emulate the work of those who have enlarged the boundaries of medicine by reclaiming an unexplored wilderness, and laying bare truths which have long lain hid. It requires but a beginning, for you will find that the work will become so engrossing and satisfactory that you will be forced,