

happy solution that we should be treated as Peter is said to treat the members of a small but spiritually exclusive denomination, and be conducted to a little Paradise of our own and to ourselves.

THE ASSOCIATION AND MEDICAL RESEARCH.

But badinage apart, I am convinced that in former years those in charge of the programmes for our meetings have shown grave error in judgment in not encouraging more actively the publication of the more scientific communications before this association. The prime object of our body is to bring together practitioners from all parts of the Dominion, and Canada being mainly country, diluted perhaps, with a considerable body of water, and the country practitioner being in the majority, the impression has been advanced work in medicine would frighten him away. Now I believe that this has been a piece of Pharisaism on the part of our town physicians who have had the arrangement of the meetings. There is, of course, the practitioner who has rusticated and has rusted, but that class is both of urban and of rustic incidence; it exists in our cities to, I believe, an even greater extent. Nothing will bring men of that type to our meetings. Despite my lack of opportunities I have come across here in Canada, country practitioners whose libraries outshame those of most city consultants, men right up to date, eager and active to know the last advance; and those, I judge, are not few in number. I can, on the contrary, recall the study of one leading physician in one corner of which lay the year's accumulation of medical journals, still in their wrappers, all unread. He appeared only to take in two, or at most three. That man, despite his position, characteristically absented himself from meetings of this association and of our local society.

Here let me confess that I never realized so vividly the might and keenness of the general practitioner on this continent as I did this last June. It was my good fortune to be invited to attend the meeting of the American Medical Association at Atlantic City. Now I had heard of that association as, in the past, a huge body of which those who were not politicians and officeseekers had joined because of the excuse for a cheerful annual holiday afforded by the meetings; and that the papers presented, when not barefaced advertisements on the parts of specialists to increase their clientele, were *crambe repetita* "cabbaged" from the more popular text-books. I knew that there had been a rapid change for the better—one had but to read the journal of the association to see this—but I was wholly unpre-