

of the Canada Medical Association was perhaps greater than at any previous gathering, it was a disappointment to the profession in Montreal that more had not availed themselves of the opportunity of visiting our city, considering the additional inducement offered of attending the meetings of the British Association. It has been hinted that our Ontario brethren are disposed to desert the mother association for their new-born local one, but we are loath to give credence to any such rumor. Certainly some sections of that Province are always well represented at the general gathering, and we hope and believe they will continue to be so. We cannot let this opportunity pass without adding our testimony to the able and efficient manner in which the President, our esteemed friend Dr. Sullivan, conducted the proceedings. His address will no doubt have been read with considerable interest.

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—Our contemporary, the *Medical News* of Philadelphia, publishes in its issue of September 27th a lecture by Mr. Lawson Tait, delivered at the Jefferson Medical College Hospital. The subject was, as a matter of course, that which Mr. Tait has made so peculiarly his own—abdominal section. Mr. Tait, as is well known, is strongly opposed to tapping. He said that no woman with abdominal disease, unless clearly malignant, should be tapped, and that for five or six years he had not lost a case of ovariectomy which had not been previously tapped. He advocated early operation—ovariectomy as soon as the tumor is recognized. He emphasized the well known fact that incomplete operations are most deadly things to the patient. “You must not begin the operation for the removal of an abdominal tumor unless you are going to finish it. If a part of the mass is removed, and it is then found impossible to complete the operation, the chances are seventy out of a hundred that the patient will die.” Mr. Tait believes that it is in deciding this point that experience tells. “Do not begin unless you are confident that you can complete the operation. If you have the courage of your convictions, and the experience necessary to do a difficult piece of work, go ahead and finish it. The chances of recovery will be infinitely greater than if you leave the thing half done.” Mr. Tait also spoke of his operation for removal of the uterine appendages, strongly advocating it in suitable cases. He disposed of the objection that the operation leads to certain changes—such as masculine appearance, and others purely theoretical—by saying that, although he had done a great many such operations, he had never seen any change except one of improvement of the health of the woman, which, however, does not always come immediately, as she has usually