

to give the association its character and rank amongst the scientific societies of the world. It is, therefore, to be hoped that at the Toronto meeting, next autumn, this city may have the honor accorded to her of inaugurating the real work of the association. But if the meeting is to be made a successful one, it can only be by early and persevering labor, and much of the responsibility and labor must devolve upon the medical profession of Toronto. In this connection I cannot help congratulating the medical section of the Canadian Institute, in having secured, for our chairman for the ensuing year, the able, learned and experienced vice-president of the Association. And I trust that nothing, on our part, in the way of hearty co-operation with Dr. Hodder, shall be wanting to give *éclat* to the next meeting, and crown it with the highest success. The experienced, senior members of the profession will, I trust, pardon me for hinting that we look to them to take the lead in contributing from their stores of learning some well matured scientific papers, and if these cannot be hurriedly prepared, the sooner they are commenced the better. I trust, too, that in this respect the medical section will give a good account of itself.

To give, however, to the Canada Medical Association a lasting vitality, it must have a permanent source of supply, and this, it seems to me, can only be secured by the formation of branch associations, embracing areas of convenient dimensions. The medical electoral divisions would, probably answer for this purpose, and the members of council might accept the suggestion to call their constituents together for the purpose of forming electoral associations, in affiliation with the Canada association, and named respectively after each division. The formation of such tributaries would not only give vitality and strength to the Canada association, but would, also, give compactness to the medical profession of Ontario, and, rising above the rivalries of the past, enable us to exercise that influence in the creation of public opinion, on all the great questions of social interest, to which by our numbers and habits of thought we are justly entitled.

The quiet and unobtrusive calling of the medical profession, and the unending round of duty its practice involves, forbid our entering the lists with many of the robustious demagogues, whose noisy declamations tend to make one think they have been sent on a special mission to turn the world upside down. It is, nevertheless, gratifying to observe that in Britain the medical profession is not only accorded a higher social position than ever before, but that the pursuit of scientific inquiry and the general attainments of physicians, make them considered to be in a high degree available to fill positions of the greatest honor and the highest public trust. And here, in this fair province of ours, the sprinkling of