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## Original Communications.

### THE MEDICAL SOCIETY: ITS PLACE AND EQUIPMENT.\*

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A writer says, "There is, for every one of us, a place and also an equipment that, taken together, ensure success. It is our duty to find our place, and to use our equipment." The wisdom of this statement may be taken as indisputable. I shall, therefore, with some license use it as a text on which to base a few remarks that you will please accept as an instalment on the debt which, as president, I owe to the members of this society for the honor conferred upon me. It has the merit, too, of being a fairly orthodox text, for it can be said that it naturally divides itself into two heads: The Place and The Equipment.

#### THE PLACE.

The medical society was begotten, and has ever been perpetuated, by one of the most meritorious inspirations that govern the physician's life, namely, the desire for more knowledge, wider experience and greater skill. A glance over the names enrolled in the membership of a medical society shows the place it holds in the estimation of medical men. There you find the names of men distinguished alike for the highest professional attainments in technical knowledge and skill, and also for the noblest attributes of character. The fact that the medical society can gather into it such a class of men, is very positive evidence that it has a place. Another equally strong

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\* Presidential Address, before the Toronto Medical Society, October 6th, 1901.