

perhaps, above all, in its influence upon the nation, as we happily still have witness in the survivor of them, there were an inflexible integrity and a lofty ethical purpose, which command our loyalty and admiration, and which inspired to the highest ends those powers which they have exercised in their respective spheres. Technical training and accumulated learning, these are every day more and more necessary, but day by day also we see more and more clearly that the English people are right in remembering that without the qualities of character which we have observed in these great men of our time all other gifts may be unavailing or even mischievous.

Mr Gladstone's speech, at the meeting so generously and so ably presided over by the Duke of Cambridge, was far more than a graceful tribute to a distinguished public man and personal friend. In its subdued passion, its stateliness, and its breadth and force of thought, it was rather a funeral oration. With masterly skill Mr. Gladstone set the great departed physician, as it were, monumentally, before us, upon the eminence of the profession which he represented and adorned. It is not for us at this time to take too complacently to ourselves the generous words in which Mr. Gladstone described the profession of medicine, words which the press has with no less generosity repeated and reinforced; nor, on the other hand, shall we at such a time make any protestations of unworthiness. We are proud and thankful to know that the late leader of our profession was of our house and of our kin; that he was not placed over us from without, but rose from our ranks; that he was moulded by the pressure of our ethical traditions and of our modern activities; that for good or evil he partook of our nature and was inspired by our life. Mr. Gladstone told us that "the position of our profession at the present day has become one of vital and commanding interest to the whole of society." Lord Salisbury recently took occasion to say like things of us; let us remember that if we accept the tribute we must take the responsibility likewise, and in looking upon this image of our lost leader endeavor to live up to the standard which he upheld, and "qui, quasi cursores, vitæ lampada tradunt," to hand on to our successors with radiance undimmed the lamp which has fallen

from the grasp of him who has gone before.—
British Medical Journal.

THE MEDICAL AND SANITARY INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS.

The following article, taken from the *British Medical Journal*, applies to Canada so well that we give it in full:

"The school inspector, as he exists to-day, is beginning to be regarded as more or less responsible for those abuses of teaching which the public has learned to group under the name of 'overpressure.' It cannot be denied that the working of compulsory education has revealed the need of something in the nature of compulsory interference with its methods. But everyone who has given thoughtful study to the subject must have been convinced that evils of both commission and omission attend the educational practices of all schools as at present conducted. The physical and sanitary requirements as well as the mental training of the children of one section of the community are subjected to some amount of Government supervision. But no such official control is exercised in the case of private schools for either sex, whose pupils have needs as great and are subject to the risks of neglect not less serious though they compete for scholarships instead of merely earning a Government grant. In their case the head master or the head mistress practically decides all questions of hygiene as absolutely as he or she determines the course of study. And, though each may strive to do the best according to his or her lights, their knowledge, their training, their ignorance and their whims vary within exceedingly wide limits; while the sanitary laws and the physical needs of childhood remain practically fixed quantities. *Quis custodiet custodes?* Dr. Clement Dukes, in a paper recently read before the College of Preceptors, told that body that the solution of this question would be found in a system of school inspection from the medical and sanitary point of view to be carried out under Government by duly appointed medical men, and to be applied to schools of all kinds throughout the land. He urged that the teachers and the taught would both share in the improvements thus to be initiated; from the infant, who now spends as many hours in a Government grant-earning school as does the child of fourteen, to the teachers, whose mortality in primary schools is no less than 20 per cent., according to the late Sir Edwin Chadwick's tables. Such a proposal, if it can be realized, would doubtless help to bring about many and much-needed reforms, especially in schools for girls.