

A letter was received from the Secretary of the Toronto Club placing their rooms at the disposal of the members of the Association during their stay in the city.

The order of business was then suspended for the purpose of hearing the address of welcome.

The following address of welcome was then read by Dr. Workman.

*Honourable Mr. President and Gentlemen, Delegates from the Sister Provinces.*

My brethren of the Committee of Arrangements have devolved on me the very pleasing duty of addressing you, in their name, and in that of the Medical profession of Ontario, in terms of hearty welcome to the Capital of our prosperous and happy Province. I am deeply gratified by the honor thus conferred on me, affording, as it does, so happy an occasion of meeting esteemed old friends, and of making acquaintance with so many distinguished members of the Profession of which I am still happy and proud to be recognized as a member, though, in truth, after sixteen years absence from general practice, and almost constant immurement in an abode of dethroned reason, I can hardly regard myself as entitled to claim rank.

Do not, gentlemen, be so unjust towards the Committee, nor so harsh towards me, as to suppose that I have been placed before you as a representative man, in any other relation than that of simple expositorship of the cordial esteem of your Western brethren. I have heard it hinted (and there may be people mischievous enough to transform the joke into plausible fact) that the present spokesmanship has been delegated to me from certain psychological considerations connected with the course of legislation on medical affairs in the last session of our domestic Parliament. There is not any truth in this injurious insinuation; and though I am but too well aware of the fact that insanity is seriously on the increase in this country, I do not believe that our present Medical Law has been the production of men of unsound mind,—so far, at least, as the members of our Profession were concerned. There has, to be sure, been a great deal of mental perturbation, and of that nervous irritability which is so commonly presented in the incubative stage of mental alienation; but I fondly hope these threatening symptoms are now gradually subsiding, and that before the close of the present auspicious re-union, you will be able to award to us a certificate of at least average mental competency.

Our brethren who have been most prominently identified with the framing of the present law (and I assure you some of them are very