

country and their Queen ; he does not sit among the judges of the land ; the high places of brilliant statesmanship are not for him ; while the world at large can reward him with little beyond a successful practice in which every dollar that he earns represents its equivalent in hard continuous work. But while the soldier and the statesman win honour and fame, the family physician will draw to himself the love and gratitude of manifold hearts ; he will have no enemies, martial or political ; and his labours, if directed by a wise and prudent skill, will be for the welfare and benefit of all. Such honours as are open to him lie chiefly within his own profession and the small circle of the scientific world. Among these his name may be as a household word, his opinions may be quoted as conclusive, his writings become standard works ; and these honours are very real and very satisfactory. I need only quote such names as Harvey and Hunter, Jenner and Virchow, to show you what I mean. But let the student remember that while influence or party may advance a man in other professions above many superior to himself, the hero in medical research must wholly depend upon his own deservings. To take a foremost place in the wary and critical field of science he must excel.

And these remarks naturally bring me to a consideration of the state of the profession in this country. Though not so advanced in the scientific departments as in the older countries of Europe, yet I think the condition is one for congratulation, for in practical work and in the average of attainments, the members of the profession in Canada yield to those of no other country : and this is what should be desired, for general professional excellence brings about the greatest good to the greatest number. For this we have largely to thank that wise conservative spirit which directed the founders of our medical institutions, and which has ever since remained with the promoters of medical legislation in this country. While across the border the standard of qualifications has been gradually retrograding, and not until now, upon the chaos which resulted from the Free Trade principle applied to medicine, is the light breaking, and with it glimpses of a future full of hope, the people in Canada have