

a state of things? The programme it laid out for itself at the outset, as I have already shown, was very extensive; it was too extensive for any society to carry out. This was soon perceived, and from the time that the Association got away from the business of framing bills which were never to be enacted, and discussing schemes which came to naught, and settled down to its legitimate work of fostering a scientific spirit in its members, encouraging them to produce good literary work, urging them to original observation, helping them to good understanding amongst themselves, assisting in the maintenance of a high standard of ethics, promoting sociability and good-fellowship—then it succeeded, its meetings were instructive, useful in many ways, and thoroughly enjoyable. It has no feeling of rivalry towards any other society, and I trust none is felt by them towards it. Each has its own sphere of usefulness, and can accomplish its own good ends, without detracting in any way from the necessity for a general reunion of this kind. This Province of Ontario has successfully organized an active and thoroughly admirable society; other of the Provinces have done the same, and it is only a source of regret to many of us from the old Province of Quebec that circumstances have not favored our following their excellent example. This Association, I am convinced, has done much good, and will, I hope, continue to do much more in the years to come. For instance, though failing to carry through such comprehensive measures as were at first contemplated both in educational matters and in matters of State medicine, yet this Association has been again and again occupied in considering the important subject of general hygiene; and, at many of its meetings, the discussions which have taken place and the resolutions passed have aided very materially in promoting such legislation as has been secured bearing upon the public health. Indeed, it must needs be that expressions of opinion from a meeting of the profession representing all sections of the country should command the attention of those who control these matters. The need still existing for further exertions in this direction is emphasized by the lamentable apathy exhibited in so many cases where the public health is in ques-