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Mr. President and Gentlemen:—

The parable of the unjust judge who finally yielded to the importunities of the litigious widow finds its parallel in the present instance.

Some time in September of last year, on the occasion of the meeting of the Canadian Medical Association in Ottawa, I met the genial president of the Maritime Medical Association, and in an unguarded moment allowed him to sound me on the question of delivering the Address in Medicine at the meeting of the Maritime Medical Association and the Medical Society of Nova Scotia, in the following July. There seemed to be plenty of time to consider the matter, and I gave I fear an evasive answer, trusting in my innermost soul that time would obliterate on both sides the recollection of this interview. My hopes, however, were shattered some months later by receiving a more pressing invitation, and, while still balancing between yea and nay, a second letter arrived informing me that the Executive Committee was to meet in two or three days to make out the programme. I felt that an immediate decision was unavoidable, and somewhat reluctantly telegraphed Dr. Muir an acceptance of his offer. Since then I have had occasion to repent at leisure.

That I am delighted on the present occasion to meet such a representative gathering of my confrères of the Lower Provinces, goes without saying, but I should have preferred to come as an appreciative