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ADDRESS IN SURGERY.*

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When asked by your President to deliver the Address in Surgery before the Maritime Medical Association, I accepted the honor in ignorance of what it involved. It would have given me infinitely more pleasure had I been permitted to attend your society meeting in a much humbler capacity; but, as a Nova Scotian by birth, I feel that I am addressing friendly critics, who will pardon my shortcomings, and perhaps account for them by considering that they are due to the unfortunate circumstance that I left my native province and have settled in the West.

The beginning of the new century has brought out many able articles describing the progress of surgery for the past hundred years. The death of our beloved Queen a few months ago has stimulated many British writers to give a retrospect of the progress of our profession during the Victorian era. The historical record has thus been fully written, and it would appear justifiable now to make reference to some of the more recent developments in surgery, particularly in connection with certain principles which have been enunciated during the latter part of the nineteenth century, and which are at the very foundations of modern scientific surgery, principles forming the foundation which has been

^{*}Read before the Maritime Medical Association Meeting, hold at Halifax, N.S., July 3rd and 4th, 1901.