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Original Communications

THE CANADA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The fifteenth annual meeting of the Canada Medical Association was held in the City of Halifax on the 3rd and 4th of August. The attendance of members was fair, and a number of interesting papers were read. Not being able to be present, we are indebted to our contemporary, the *Canada Medical and Surgical Journal*, for a large portion of our report of the proceedings.

Dr. Canniff, of Toronto, the President, occupied the chair.

Dr. Strong, Superintendent of the Cleveland, Ohio, Lunatic Asylum; also the Military and Naval Surgeons stationed at Halifax, were elected members by invitation.

Dr. Reid, Halifax, read the report on Medicine. Special attention was drawn to the disease known as General Paralysis of the Insane—a malady of most fatal character and on the increase, and not receiving sufficient attention. The report was received for discussion.

Dr. Stewart, of Brucefield, Ontario, read the report on Therapeutics.

The President of the Association, Dr. Canniff, read a paper on "Vital Statistics and Public Health." The President stated that the Committee appointed at the last meeting had waited upon Sir John A. Macdonald, and had been accompanied and assisted by many of the medical men now in Parliament, that the Government are heartily inclined to assist in forwarding the movement to provide for the public health, and that if it had not been for the very indifferent health of the Premier himself, it is probable that legislation on this important matter would, before this, have been introduced into the Dominion Parliament. He believed that the Association was doing a good work in keeping the subject before the country, and hoped they would continue their efforts until brought to a satisfactory issue.

Hon. Dr. Parker considered this a most important matter; hoped that further action of a decided nature would soon be taken. His idea is that our aim should be to have a committee formed of good representative men from each Province to initiate and watch the progress of a bill for this object. This law-making should begin with the separate Provinces, each for itself, and the whole should be consolidated under some Act governing the entire Dominion, and passed by the House of Commons.