

PROFESSOR WATSON'S ADDRESS.

Professor B. P. Watson delivered the opening lecture of the medical faculty of the University. He chose his own subject for his text. He traced the history of obstetrics from the earliest times. He paid due attention to aid the study of anatomy had been in laying a correct foundation for the science of obstetrics and its much more modern sister, gynaecology.

He then carried the students through the very interesting and important years when Morton, in Boston, and Simpson, in Edinburgh, were introducing ether and chloroform, respectively. By the aid of these obstetric practice entered upon a new phase of its history.

But not less important was the great work of Semmelweiss, in Austria, and Oliver Holmes, in America, on puerperal sepsis. These two men, especially the former, taught that puerperal peritonitis was the same condition as that of death following an infected wound. Here another great step was taken forward, and means began to be taken to prevent infection being carried to lying-in women.

The next great advance was when Lister introduced his great teachings of making parts clean and keeping them clean in the true surgical sense. Remove infection from old wounds as fast as possible, and keep infection out of new ones. The introduction of Listerian principles in obstetrical, as in surgical, practice, made a new series of operations possible. Caesarian sections and hysterectomies now came within the range of safe surgical procedures.

Professor Watson's address was worthy the occasion and did credit to the lecturer. All who had the good fortune to hear it were well rewarded for being present. It laid down a high ideal for the students to work up to. There is no branch of the general practitioner's work that will more frequently raise them in the estimation of their clientele than the successful and humane management of their maternity cases. The students are to be congratulated upon having one so able to direct their studies at the head of obstetrics and gynaecology.

VIEWS ON EUGENICS.

Professor P. Sandiford, of the Faculty of Education, University of Toronto, has been speaking out his mind freely. He has well-defined opinions regarding education and is forceful in the expression of these.

One of the first points he has emphasized is that we should preserve the individuality of the scholar. He condemned the modern tendency to deal with students in groups. This assumes that all are equal