

profession, should be sufficient, if there were no other reason, to lead to a proper organization of our forces. This course would not be in the interests of the universities as much as in that of the country, and of this Association as representing the profession. It is much easier to regulate and guide whatever pertains to the welfare of the country in this its early stage of growth, than it will be to gain control after it has developed into a populous country with fixed local interests. In the new western provinces there are some signs of a feeling of antagonism to the older parts becoming evident. There seems to be a fear that they may wish to dominate too greatly the policy of these newer parts. It will take wise management and judicious action to arrest the growth of that feeling, and forestall any attempt that might be made to estrange the sympathy and coöperation of these new provinces. Most of the western profession have been recently graduated from our universities, and should understand us so well that with ordinary judgment it should not be a matter of much difficulty to secure and retain their hearty coöperation in any scheme having for its object the highest interests of the whole country as well as of the whole profession. I say *country*, because we should see to it that the public recognize the fact that this and similar organizations exist for the promotion of what is for the general good as well as for the benefit of those more immediately concerned. The whole is but the sum of its constituent parts, and can be affected for good or ill only through the parts. Therefore, what we, as a constituent part, do to promote our own true interests is of benefit to the country at large. It is highly desirable that the public should realize that the objects of this

Association are not only to benefit the profession, but also, and chiefly, for the promotion of what is for the general good. It is not a "trades union," but a national organization which should have, and has, the nation's welfare for its chief object. It is apparent to all that the country stands in need of all the assistance which this and other agencies within its bounds can bring to its aid, in its enormous responsibility of assimilating the vast numbers of peoples from all nations annually entering its domain, and of developing and maintaining a proper national spirit marked alike by vigour and honour. That she is not coping quite successfully with the difficulties imposed upon her is a subject of common observation. Probably no country developing in population and resources with such phenomenal rapidity has ever been able to prevent, at least temporarily, some deterioration in public morals. It is almost a daily experience to hear some one remark on the decadence of the public conscience. With the large immigration from all parts of the world, and the intense striving after wealth incident to the development of a young country of such large resources, it is doubtless inevitable that there will be some relaxing of the rugged honesty, private and public, of the pioneers of this country, but that there should be even a semblance of ground for the very general charge of moral decadence, is much to be deplored. As loyal Canadians we have a profound interest in this matter. Public morals cannot be degraded without affecting unfavorably all classes, so that in our own interest as well as that of this land which we love, to which we return from our pilgrimages year by year with an ever-increasing affection and pride, and for which, if need be, we would yield our heart's blood, we