

THE CANADA LANCET.

A Monthly Journal of Medical and Surgical Science

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Communications solicited on all Medical and Scientific subjects, and also Reports of Cases occurring in practice. Advertisements inserted on the most liberal terms. All Letters and Communications to be addressed to the "Editor Canada Lancet," Toronto.

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THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AND ITS BRANCHES.

One of the most noteworthy tendencies of the age is that which favors consolidation. This phase of opinion is seen in the Imperial policy of the leading statesmen in England, by which we in Canada are greatly influenced; in the formation of the Incorporated Law Society, to guard the interests of the legal profession; of the British Medical Association, and of numerous societies in connexion with the various professions and trades.

The British Medical Association is probably the most powerful and widely-extended organization of any professional society properly speaking, having branches in all parts of the British Islands. Australia has taken the lead in establishing branches in the Colonies. Its ranks embrace the most eminent men in the Empire as members, and many distinguished foreigners as honorary members. Its annual meetings are looked forward to, both at home and abroad, as a great event. At such meetings one has the opportunity of hearing such masters of our art as Jenner, Paget, Hutchinson, Lister, Matthews Duncan, Houghton of Dublin, and many others. Its Journal, the *British Medical*, contains reports of these and branch meetings, and is always open to members for original papers. Besides news of this character, it contains articles by leading men on all branches of medical science. An important feature in the Journal is a column for practical memoranda on therapeutics and clinical medicine and surgery.

The objects of the Association are the promotion of medical and allied sciences and the maintenance of the honor and interests of the profession by the aid of periodical meetings of the profession

and Association, by the publication of transactions and other papers, and by grants of money out of the funds of the Association for the promotion of the medical sciences in such manner as may be determined on.

The Association has always taken an active and often initiative part in the mother country, in the discussion of questions of the highest importance, and has exercised no inconsiderable influence, both in Parliament and in society, on many subjects. Among these may be named the improvement in the status of the medical officers of the Army and Navy; of the Poor Law medical officers; the administration of medical relief to the industrial and pauper classes; the amendment of the sanitary laws; the protection of infant life; vaccination and small-pox; medical education and reform, &c.

The membership of such an Association presents many advantages, among which may be mentioned, the publication of letters and communications from members in the *British Medical Journal*, and constant communication with the British profession through this, the most widely-circulated medical journal in the world, thus bringing the status of the profession in this country before the British medical public. When this is known and understood there should be no longer any difficulty about Canadian graduates registering in England. The *British Medical Journal* is sent weekly, free to every member on payment of his annual subscription. The only requirements for membership are, that the candidate shall be a registered medical practitioner in the country in which he resides, and be recommended by at least two members of the Association.

It is now in contemplation to establish a branch or branches in Canada as in Australia. The matter has received considerable attention from the profession in Canada, especially in the Maritime Provinces. The movement is in the right direction, and we hope soon to see it accomplished. It is, we think, deserving of cordial support.

ONTARIO MEDICAL ELECTIONS.

In another column will be found a letter by a member of the Council to which we would direct the special attention of the members of the profession in the Territorial Divisions. We have on more than one occasion pointed out some of the