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Original Articles.

No paper published or to be published elsewhere as original, will be accepted in this department.

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.*

By WILLIAM BRITTON, M.D. (Tor.), Toronto.

GENTLEMEN,—When, at our annual gathering last year, I was made the recipient of the highest gift at the disposal of the Ontario Medical Association, my uppermost feelings were those of surprise, thankfulness and timidity. Many there were who, by right of seniority and veteran labors, had stronger claims on your consideration, any one of whom would have presided over this noble assemblage with all the dignity and ability that the occasion demands; therefore I the more keenly appreciate the expression of your kindly feeling and generosity. The undertaking, on my part, was fraught with much that would naturally disturb one's ordinary peace of mind; the infancy, childhood and puberty of the Association (this is but its 18th birthday) have been intimately linked with a brilliant list of eminent men who, as chief officers, have so largely contributed to its growth and effectiveness—men who have created ideals the most impressive in character, and in whose onward footprints it is not easy to tread without faltering. With a consciousness of the responsibility resting upon me and a somewhat imperfect estimate of my shortcomings, around the standard I have gathered various committees possessing all the qualifications necessary to constitute this, our annual meeting, a step forward in the march of Canadian medical science; and I would take this opportunity of expressing my thanks publicly for the preparatory work which they have so gladly, assiduously and disinterestedly performed. It has been for them no sinecure; abundant evidence of this will be found in the comprehensive programme now laid before you, the carrying out of which, I trust, will prove, in the highest sense, both entertaining and instructive.

On behalf of the Association I extend to our guests from afar the right hand of cordiality and goodfellowship; and, having again and again witnessed the proverbial hospitality of that branch of the profession resident in Toronto, I have full confidence that those members who have come from the many outlying districts of the Province will feel perfectly at home;

*Delivered before the Ontario Medical Association at the Annual Meeting, held at Toronto, June 2nd and 3rd, 1898.