

fray the cost of the measures required to prevent unnecessary disease and death. Is our own profession entirely exempt from culpability in this matter? Have we, as good citizens, earnestly advocated the need of more attention on the part of the public and the Government to sanitary affairs? Nay, have *we*, as physicians, the trusted advisers and natural guides of the public in all that concerns the prevention of disease, used our influence with the people themselves and with their representatives in so zealous and able a manner as to make both feel the importance of the subject? Have the several members of our profession who have been elected to the Legislature of their country done all that they might to initiate and secure legislation on subjects appertaining to State medicine?

In this connection, I congratulate the Association that, as you will presently learn, there is good reason to believe that the appeal which has been made by your body to the Federal Government for aid in carrying out a scheme of health registration in the Dominion will be successful to at least a moderate extent.

But to continue our reflections upon some of the *uses* served by the Canada Medical Association.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

It has been instrumental to some extent in inducing not a few members of the profession to contribute some valuable communications to the common store of medical experience and fact.

Hitherto Canadian physicians have devoted their time and talents chiefly to the teaching or to the practice of medicine; and comparatively few have recorded their experience of the diseases they have treated, whether in hospital or private practice. Very few have written a book or even a pamphlet upon medical topics, and our medical journals, numerous as they are, do not contain very many articles written by Canadians, but consist mainly of extracts from foreign periodicals.

It must be admitted also that the men whose opportunities as officers of asylums and hospitals, or whose exercises as teachers of science confer upon them special advantages, are equally with their brethren the general practitioners vulnerable on this point. Within the past few years, however, the number of papers