

whole subject of medical education in this province. The curriculum advanced stage by stage to the present high standard of a five years' course of study and a preliminary examination, almost the equivalent of a B.A. degree, in order to meet the demands of our country, that only men of educational standing and known ability shall be admitted into the ranks of the medical profession. This is said to be an age of general progress and advancement in almost every line of thought. True, in Canada we have legislative confederation of our various provinces, and why? In order that there might be a uniformity in trade and commerce, and thus understand each other better in all the relations of life. In medical education, however, this idea is not being carried out. What do we find to-day? Each province legislating for itself in matters medical, and no special effort being made about central examining boards or councils in each province, of equal standing, so that medical degrees of one province would pass current in any other province without being subjected to a second examination. Failing this course, the only other open is for all the provinces to agree to a central examining and registering body at the capital, the license of which would be recognized in the entire Dominion. This would require a change in the British North America Act, which could be so modified as to meet the requirements of our people, providing each province agreed to such changes. The present state of medical education must shortly undergo some change in order to give evidence of progressive spirit in our people, and such can only be brought about by placing the whole subject so intimately associated with our welfare and prosperity before the *proper tribunal*.

The higher functions of medicine are now before you, which even extend beyond the healing of the sick, the instruction of the masses as to the means and methods by which disease may be prevented, and death deprived of its supremacy and power. In the medical school of the present in Canada, sanitary science is one of the chief subjects of study, and by this line of investigation we have hope that in the near future the contagious diseases, like scarlet fever, measles, cholera, will be as effectually stamped out as smallpox is to-day. In the path of progressive medicine what a marked change has taken place, even in hospitalism, by which such

dreaded diseases as puerperal fever and hospital gangrene have been in a great measure stamped out.

Science has much to do with the possible triumphs of sanitary reform. It is the art, however, not the science alone; the doing, not exactly the knowing, that must take first rank in the medical work of life. It is, in fact, the actual bearing of the necessary training that directs the after life-work of the physician. Doubtless there is great value in science, and in medical practice, such science as can be turned to practical account, which does far more to build up a professional reputation than *accumulated theories*, which cannot in any way be applied to the really great works of the physician. True science is ever humble, and great discoverers, such as Newton and Faraday, were the humblest of men. How vigorous have been the attacks on Sir Joseph Lister, the father of antiseptic surgery, and with what commendable spirit he upheld his position, marking beyond doubt the greatness of the man. It is well to be up and doing, keeping pace with every line of advance in our profession. True, we are living in an age remarkable for its discoveries. The younger members must not run away with the idea that the aged fathers in the profession are not likewise progressive. This is a reading age as well, in which current medical literature is almost superabundant, and old and young must labour and continue to work in order to keep anything like pace with the progress of science. The affiliation of the various sciences, by the present change in the medical department, does away with the isolated form in which matters were previously. Thus the different sciences take, notwithstanding the diversity of their objects, one and the same development. The one series of ideas brightens and fructifies mental power, the other tends to promote health, strength and general systemic vigour.

When a student graduates, what course should he adopt in order to insure public confidence and gain a practice? When he has selected the place, when he has decided to pursue his professional work, there are points of the greatest possible importance, to which he should turn the closest attention. Study carefully the physical character of the city or country section in which he resides; as to soil, drainage, water supply, food supply, public and private school, endemics, epidemics, and all such influences. Once he has familiarized him-