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LISTERISM—ANTISEPSIS AND ASEPSIS.*

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The personality and the work of Lord Lister are both singularly unique. His nobility of character, his remarkable modesty, and his exquisitely charming manner combine to make him a very lovable man. To appreciate to any considerable extent these traits in Lister one must have some acquaintance with him—to appreciate them fully, we are told, one must know him intimately. Fortunately we in Canada know him fairly well, and we certainly love and respect him very highly.

From a professional as well as a humanitarian standpoint we have to consider his magnificent work in surgery. It is quite unnecessary, however, to go into details. What Lister has done for surgery, what he has done for humanity cannot be properly described in words; but the whole civilized world worships him as a hero, and a wonderful epoch-maker.

We shall presume that Listerism includes the principles and practice of antiseptic and aseptic surgery. Several years ago Sir Frederick Treves spoke as follows: "Lister created anew the ancient art of healing; he made a reality of the hope which had for all time been the surgeon's endeavor; he removed the impenetrable cloud which had stood for years between great principles and successful practice, and he rendered possible a treatment which had hitherto been but the vision of the dreamer. The nature of his discovery—like that of most

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