

society of this city may with the utmost fairness claim the merit of having taken the first decided step in the matter. This will be further apparent when we consider the official correspondence which originated from the above proceedings, extracts from which we purpose now to give.

In a letter, dated Jan. 10, 1845, Dr. Grasset, secretary to the Toronto Medico-Chirurgical Society, "desires to express the willingness they (the Toronto Medico-Chirurgical Society) entertain to co-operate with the Montreal Medico-Chirurgical Society in any measure which may be regarded as tending to promote the mutual interests of these institutions, or the interests generally of the medical profession in this country.

In a letter, dated April 12, 1845, Dr. Nault secretary to the Quebec medical society, after a meeting, held on the 7th, thus replies to a letter submitted by him, from Dr. Badgley, to that Society—"J'ai été chargé de vous prier de témoigner à la Société Médico Chirurgicale de Montréal, le plaisir et l'impressionnement avec lesquels la Société de Médecine de Quebec accepte l'alliance qu'elle (the Montreal Medico Chirurgical Society) lui propose. Fondée comme celles de Montréal et de Toronto dans le but de former un lien d'union et de fraternité entre ses Membres, de veiller à leur protection mutuelles, et de travailler de concert au progrès des Sciences Médicales, la Société de Medecine de Quebec sera aussi fière et heureuse, de donner son appui et sa co-opération à toutes les mesures qui pourront être prises pour améliorer et relever l'état de la Profession Médicale en Canada. Comme rien ne pourrait contribuer plus promptement à amener cette fin si désirable qu'une association comme celle que vous proposez entre les différentes Sociétés Médicales de la Province, j'ai raison de vous dire que la Société de Quebec est prêt à joindre ses soins, et à vous assurer en particulier de la bonne volonté de CHACUNE SES MEMBRES de vous seconder de tous leurs efforts, &c."

Such then were the two responses from the sister societies of the province in regard to their co-operation. But we proceed, and to the subsequent letter we request particular attention. The resolutions adopted at the special meeting of the 8th March, having been duly transmitted to the secretaries of the Quebec and Toronto medical societies, the following reply was returned from the first mentioned, which we give entire.

{ QUEBEC MEDICAL SOCIETY,  
May 12, 1845.

SIR,—I have had the honour to submit to our Medical Society, at the last monthly meeting, your letter of the 7th April last, containing a series of resolutions, having for their object, the formation of a General Association of the Members of the Medical Profession in Canada.

I have much pleasure in informing you, that these reso-

lutions, after having been taken into consideration, were unanimously adopted, except the second, which was amended by the following: "That it is expedient to establish a general and approved Tariff of fees, in which the system of attendance on families, by contract, shall be included.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

J. Z. NAULT, Sec. Q. M. S.

F. Badgley, Esq., M. D. }  
Sec. M. M. C. S. }

From the second, or the Toronto Medical Society, an answer was also returned, signifying an acquiescence in "all its leading particulars."

When therefore we consider, that according to the first suggestion or resolution entertained at the special meeting of the Montreal Medico-Chirurgical Society, held on the 8th of March, that "the members of the existing Societies, and "of all such other Societies as shall hereafter be formed for the same purposes," shall constitute "the general association," "that members of the profession, not belonging to branch societies, shall be admitted into the Association by Ballot," and when we further consider that the Quebec Medical Society "unanimously" adopted the very resolutions in which these formative elements of the association, (if we may use the term), were alone recognized, we ask if that Society did not recognise the principle that the Association, intended to have been formed, should not have been, at least in the first place, exclusively confined to the "MEDICAL SOCIETIES?" It appears to us that this is an inference clear and unavoidable from the premises laid down; and we may now not unfairly, nor indeed unreasonably, demand how the Medical Society of Quebec could, consistently with its obligations to the Medico-Chirurgical Society of this city, contained in its expressions of concurrence and co-operation, depart not only from the spirit, but the letter of its contract, and summon a meeting of the Profession of its district, to do what?—to appoint delegates to a meeting, from which by a previously deliberately expressed resolution, they had determined that none but members of "the existing Medical Societies," or "such others as might have been formed for the same purpose," should be present. We thus clearly, in the first place, trace the unfortunate result of the Convention to the error of the Quebec Medical Society, in calling a district meeting of the Profession of Quebec, for the nomination of Delegates to a convention, at which, unless that district meeting had first constituted itself a District Society, its Delegates had, we maintain, no right to sit; and in the second place, to the district meeting of the Profession of this part of Canada East, for the purpose of nominating Delegates to the same convention, at which, they also, for the same reason, had no right to be present. The same observation applies to the Delegates from the District