

# The Canadian Journal of Medicine and Surgery

A JOURNAL PUBLISHED MONTHLY IN THE INTERESTS OF  
MEDICINE AND SURGERY

---

---

VOL. XIX.

TORONTO, MARCH, 1906.

NO. 3.

---

---

## *Original Contributions.*

---

### THE COMING OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

BY JOHN HUNTER, M.B., TORONTO.

---

If the visit of a prince, statesman or military hero be hailed with delight by social, political and military circles, no less heartily will the medical men of Canada welcome the coming of the British Medical Association. This Association has years enough behind it to merit the respect due to age, whilst the character and achievements of a host of its members fill up some of the most glorious chapters in medical literature.

Lord Bacon has said that "No man who is correctly informed as to the past will be disposed to take a morose or desponding view of the present." If this be true of ordinary affairs, it is equally so of medicine in its literature and practice. In view of the coming meeting, it is opportune to view medical history in general, that of the British Association in particular.

The material at hand is so vast that it scarcely seems possible to deal with either alone, much less both, in the limits of a paper. I shall try, however, to briefly summarize what I do write under four heads: I. Historical; II. Scientific; III. Patriotic; IV. Social.

#### HISTORICAL.

In the paragraph or two to be devoted to this section, it will only be possible to mention a few of the names in medicine that correspond to mountain peaks in geography. I need not detain you with any references from the medical literature of the Bible, for I presume, as Biblical students, you are all familiar with these. We are indebted to some early Egyptians