

Wm. James, Dr. Gull, 25 years physician to Guys Hospital; Dr. West, physician of the Children's Hospital; Mr. Hutchinson, surgeon to the Lono-phthalmic and skin diseases hospitals; Dr. Seaton, Medical Inspector Privy Council, corroborates the views of Mr. Simon of the protection afforded by vaccination against small pox. Their evidence will also be found in the same book.

CONFERENCE WITH THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

At the meeting of the Canada Medical Association held at Niagara Falls in 1874 it was resolved that, "in consideration of the true interests of Medical Science, it is desirable that a medical conference should take place between the American and Canada Medical Associations at some central point to be determined upon; and that the American Association be advised as to the desirability of thus becoming more intimately acquainted, and affording an opportunity for the discussion of medical and surgical questions on a common basis."

At the meeting of the American Medical Association in Louisville, in 1875, this idea was reciprocated, the subject was taken up, and it was resolved "that a committee of thirteen be appointed, whose duty it shall be to confer with a like committee of the Canada Medical Association at such time and place as may be agreed upon by the joint committee of the associations." The meeting of the joint committee took place in Philadelphia, in September, 1876, and it was unanimously resolved "that in the opinion of this conference the interests of medical science will be promoted by a consolidation of the Canadian and American Medical Associations in one body," and "that the president of each association respectively be requested to embody this idea in his annual address in order that the matter might be taken up and more fully discussed at the next annual meeting."

Dr. Bowditch, President of the American Medical Association, at the annual meeting in June last, took up the subject in his address and placed the arguments *pro* and *con*. before the association. In favor of the plan he mentioned the following reasons:—

First, We should associate ourselves with a body of physicians, all of whom have been educated

under English influences, and many of whom have pursued their studies in England and have received diplomas from the schools of that country. We all know the high standard of qualifications required by the British schools.

Second, Why may we not look upon such a connection, as quite similar to that which has frequently taken place and which will occur hereafter when a new State in this Union is formed?

In that case, if a State medical society be organized, it has a right to send delegates to this association. The only difference, in the two cases, would be that Canada embraces a very much larger constituency than any of our new States would have.

Third, I am inclined to look with favor upon the proposed union from the standpoint of civilization itself. There can be no doubt, as already stated, that this American Association has been a great means for promoting good-will between the different sections of the United States. The proposed Union with the Canada Association will tend much towards the reuniting of two of the free nations on the globe, and certainly civilization can get only good from such co-operation. All that we can bring to unite mankind I hail with delight.

Fourth, I will allude to what would give me, I doubt not, many more, great pleasure. I wish the united professions to meet in the old cities of Montreal and Quebec, and pass up and down the noble St. Lawrence, magnificent as it is in length, depth, and breath of its waters, and more fascinating from its early associations with European civilization. I would like that we should all stand on the scarred battlements of Quebec, and I think, perhaps, we, of this country, may learn a divine lesson of magnanimity after we could together look at the obelisk, erected to the graceful action of the British Government, the joint memories of Wolfe and Montcalm, the brave soldiers, antagonists in battle, but, in death, joint heirs in the memories of mankind."

The objections to the proposed amalgamation were chiefly: the unwieldiness of the united body, the American Medical Association being already much too large a body; the difficulty of arranging the expenses; the widely distant places of meeting; the two languages spoken throughout the country, &c., &c. The judicial committee to which the subject was referred by the president reported

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