

return to help us with their labor and the light of their experience.

The Société Médical was born of the same idea which presided at the foundation of the *L'Union Médicale*, that review as interesting as it is useful, and to which we owe a high tribute of gratitude for the publication of our labors, and for the interest which it has never ceased to evince for us. The "Société Médicale" and the "*L'Union Médicale*" having originated from the same idea, and under the direction of the same views, have necessarily walked together in the onward progress. Open the *L'Union Médicale* and you will see there what these Siamese twins, if you allow me to use the expression, have accomplished since their foundation. On several occasions the Medical press in France have taken notice of the articles in the "*L'Union Médicale*" and has done the honor of reproducing them.

We claim for the Société Médical the passing of the so long wished for Medical Bill. No one will dare to deny that this Association took the initiative in the law which governs us to-day, and which, whatever changes may have been made in the original character of the Bill, it must always be admitted that, to the most devoted members of the Société Médical, we owe the fact of its having been adopted by the Legislature. If some details have been eliminated, the main points have remained the same.

This law, without being perfect as yet, is nevertheless a safeguard for us, and gives to the practitioners of the Province of Quebec guarantees which they had never been able to obtain before. With such antecedents, I do not believe that the Société Médicale can ever cease to exist on the contrary, it should acquire new strength, fill up its ranks, obtain new adherents, and continue to hold the place it occupies to-day. Let us always have before our eyes, so that we may never forget them, the principal articles which form the basis and main objects of our association. As it is always well to re-temper our courage at the spring of justice and right, permit me to enumerate those articles: The society has for its object; 1st. To cement the union which ought to reign between the members of the medical profession; 2nd. To furnish to medical men a motive for meeting, and an opportunity of fraternizing, and become more acquainted with each other; 3rd. To mutually

interest each other by readings, discussions, and scientific conferences; 4th. To bind those who compose it to practice towards each other all that honor and brotherly love prescribe between members of the same profession.

Let us frequently remember this noble motive inspired by the purest patriotism, and unity will never cease to reign among us.

Permit me, gentlemen and dear confrères, to make a last appeal in favor of one of the most legitimate objects of medical men—to endeavor to better his personal position, and to render some service to his fellow-beings. Here is our aim, and here is the secret of the success and prosperity of the *Société Médicale*.

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## Correspondence.

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WINNIPEG, January 15, 1880.

To the Editor of the CANADA MEDICAL RECORD.

I am in receipt of the CANADA MEDICAL RECORD for December, in which I notice an article referring to the rank of "Surgeon-Majors in the Canadian Militia." Being a retired officer of the Active Militia, and having had nine years service in the force, I take considerable interest in the subject, and read your article with much pleasure.

Upon referring to the militia regulations for 1879 I find that "Surgeons who have served consecutively as such during 20 years shall have the rank of Surgeon-Major, but without extra pay." This is, to say the least of it, discouraging and quite unreasonable, and only another way of saying *we don't wish to give the rank at all*.

In 1868 I was gazetted "Surgeon of the Ottawa Brigade of Garrison Artillery," and served with that corps at the Annual Drills, &c., at Ottawa, Prescott and Kingston. In 1870 I was appointed Surgeon of the 1st Battalion Ontario Rifles 1st Red River Expedition under Sir Garnet Wolsey; and again in 1871 (October) was offered "Surgeon" to the 2nd Red River Expedition, which I accepted. In 1877 the force in this province was disbanded. Thus I had nine years consecutive service, seven of which was actual service. In 1876 I applied for the rank of "Surgeon-Major. Considering I had served over *five* years, and the service I had rendered, I thought the Government would grant