

fessions are becoming crowded, and yet there is ample room in the upper rungs of the ladder of fame, which can only be reached by care, energy, perseverance and time, an exceedingly important factor in the path of duty and success. Such is truly in keeping with the sentiment of the great American poet—

“ Let us then be up and doing,  
With a heart for any fate,  
Still achieving, still pursuing,  
Learn to labour and to wait.”

Our country is large and our population steadily increasing, but not so rapidly as I could wish ; however, with the present energy in that direction, we hope to see the most sanguine expectations fully realized.

The higher functions of medicine are now before you, which even extend beyond the healing of the sick : the instruction of the masses as to the means and methods by which disease may be prevented and death deprived of its supremacy and power. In the medical schools of the present in Canada, sanitary science is one of the chief subjects of study, and by this line of investigation we have hope that in the near future the contagious diseases, like scarlet fever, measles, cholera, etc , will be as effectually stamped out as small-pox is to-day. True, the fluids we drink, such as milk and water, occasionally contain the germs of typhoid fever, scarlet fever and diphtheria, and in this line of investigation how marked have recently been the marvellous results of science and how greatly has the death rate from such causes been reduced. In the path of progressive medicine what a marked change has taken place even in hospitalism, by which such dreaded diseases as puerperal fever and hospital gangrene have been in a great measure stamped out. This is a line of duty and labour worthy of serious thought—how if possible to prolong life, by preventing outside or accidental influences so operating on the human frame as to cut short the vital spark, often in the very prime of life. To be successful in preventing the causes of disease is certainly noble work that will carry blessings to thousands and mark in a most positive manner the progressive character of the age in which we live. It is only within a short period that this truly humanitarian movement has