

anniversary, in Ottawa, the capital of our country, on this the twenty-fifth anniversary of its birth. What memories are recalled by a few—and, oh! how few they are—that were present when this Association was formed a quarter of a century ago. What changes have taken place since then! The magnificent building we now occupy was not then erected. The City of Ottawa was only a city in name; and of the noble men in our profession who were instrumental in forming this society how many have gone to their long home, and are forever at rest from the cares and anxieties of this world! The reaper Death has year by year since that time been cutting down first one and then another of our members, without regard to age, ability or position. Since our last meeting we have to mourn the death of Dr. James Ross, who so ably presided over our deliberations two years ago, in Toronto, whose kindly smile and friendly greeting we miss to-day, from whose large experience we have all more or less profited, and whose wise counsels we would all do well to follow. But we have with us to-day Sir James Grant, Dr. Hingston, Dr. Fenwick, and perhaps a few more who were present at the birth of this Association.

When we see how our country has grown and developed since that time, it is sad to think that this Society has not kept pace with the Dominion, and I trust the remarks made by Dr. Roddick in Montreal last year on this subject will bear fruit, and that in the next twenty-five years this Association will rival in numbers as it does now in ability its great neighbour, the American Medical Association, and I hope before we close our labours some steps will be taken by the formation of a committee or in some other way to promote this object.

It will be in the recollection of some present to-day the condition of things as they existed prior to the formation of this Society in 1867, and the passage of the Upper Canada Medical Act about the same time. You will remember that there were three licensing bodies in old Canada at that time, independent of the medical schools and universities. The latter were degree-conferring institutions, but they virtually possessed the licensing power, inasmuch as the holder of a degree from any of these