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By GEO. E. FENWICK, M.D.

GENTLEMEN,—My first duty in addressing you is to return thanks to my professional brethren for the high honour conferred by them in electing me to fill this chair. When I consider the many able and gifted men amongst us, I feel that a far better selection might have been made. I can only bow in submission to your will, and at the same time assure you that I shall do my best to perform the duties imposed, trusting to the charitable judgment of all for any shortcomings on my part. I fully appreciate the high position I am called upon to fill. The Canada Medical Association is not confined to the members of our profession of any one Province of this vast Dominion ; our doors are open to all regularly qualified practitioners in good standing throughout the length and breadth of this Confederation. We are in fact an Association which represents the medical profession of the entire Dominion, hence it is no small honour to be nominated the presiding officer over a body of scientific gentlemen so constituted.

I do not propose on this occasion to discuss any subject of special professional interest, nor shall I inflict on you a lengthy address on the objects and aims of our Association, but shall, in a general way, touch on such topics as I feel it will be of advantage to dwell upon, if not to take some action upon with a view of