

as contrasted with what might have been. The dense ignorance of rulers and masses on scientific questions, the slow progress of sound, useful education among the people, the huge claims of imperialism and of militarism, the wanton waste of luxury, have retarded research, have left but paltry sums available for the diffusion of knowledge, have hindered the embodiment in legislation and in actuality of much that would help the healing of the nations.

In North America, although Harvard College was founded in 1636, the title of university seems to have first been applied to the University of Pennsylvania, which in 1765 established the first school of medicine in the United States. The scattered handfuls of early settlers on our shores had, indeed, problems facing them more urgent than the promotion of science. They differed as widely in their motives for undertaking the appalling task of conquering and colonizing America, and in their fitness for the work, as they did in their nationalities.

Here was a new and great intermixture of races, where new problems of ethnology must be studied and the problems concerning the relation of man to his physical environments.

There is much of this work yet to do, and a large share of it must devolve upon the medical profession.

I cannot detain you by enumerating the services already rendered by America to medical science. They began immediately after the discovery by important contributions to pharmacology.

This Congress meets at a period of peculiar and critical interest in medical education, and I am glad to say that for the first time in the medical history of the United States we may feel proud to have such a meeting convened here, and to invite a close examination of our educational standards and facilities. I should fail in courtesy and in candor alike were I not to acknowledge the value of the example which has been so consistently set by Latin America and by Canada in the maintenance of a high standard of qualifications for medical practitioners.

Fifteen years ago the medical profession of the United States arraigned severely the management of their over numerous medical schools.

There have been many wholesome reforms since that time, and much beneficial legislation to rectify those shortcomings, and it has been done without governmental aid. This has been with a high sense of duty and devotion to science on the part of medical faculties.

A broad field opens before us for the study, with the aid of collective investigation, of the distribution and course of phthisis and rheumatism and other important diseases as influenced by race and locality. The endemic fevers, other than malarial and typhoid and yellow fever, which are said to prevail in various parts of North and South America, have long demanded systematic investigation to complete the study which the illustrious Drake began. We shall now have the opportunity of studying equally, by means of selective investigation, the relative effects of various climates on the numerous races now represented in America, and of determining more accurately the scientific and practical questions connected with our extensive series of health resorts, which embrace the finest examples of every type.

After the close of the address, and while the floor was being cleared, many persons came forward to meet Dr. Pepper and congratulate him on his splendid effort. The Marine Band then took possession of the stage, and while the guests strolled about and engaged in social converse, rendered a musical programme.

Among the many papers read in the sections, brief abstracts have been made, and they will be sent for publication in the CANADA MEDICAL RECORD, in due time.

Society Proceedings.

THE MONTREAL MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.

Stated Meeting, March 3rd, 1893.

E. P. LACHAPPELLE, M.D., FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT, IN THE CHAIR.

Cor Bovinum; Cardiac Failure; Myocarditis; Infarct of Posterior Coronary; Sudden Death.—Dr. ADAMI brought before the Society a case of heart disease presenting certain unusual conditions.

The patient, A. H., aged 35 years, a powerfully built man, had been engaged at a brewery, and had been accustomed to lift and carry about