

CANADA

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THE ADDRESS ON SURGERY.

A condensation of the address on surgery, prepared for the late meeting of the Canada Medical Association, has been published in the *Canada Lancet*. From its perusal we find that the author is strongly opposed to Listerism both in principle and in practice. He is, of course, fully entitled to maintain his own views, and to support them by all fair argument and illustration: just as much so as was Mr. Savory in his Cork address, which has been submitted to such strong adverse criticism. But we cannot fail to reprobate the bad taste which has taken the writer out of his way to cast covert sneers at the great and eminent surgeon who is the champion of antiseptic dressings. Alluding to John Hilton and others of his day who supported views principally enunciated in the well-known work on "Physical and Physiological Rest," Dr. Canniff says: "Unfortunately the modesty of these master teachers did not allow them to disseminate their views by missionary journeys to different parts of the world. They did not make a point of indoctrinating young students and sending them forth with the enthusiasm of neophytes. Had the profession fully understood their scientific teachings, and cast away the improper and too often injurious surgical appliances of a quarter of a century ago, and adopted a line of treatment in harmony with scientific teachings, there would have been little chance for the aggressive assumptions of Prof. Lister."

We do not believe that this represents at all the feeling of Canadian surgeons generally toward Prof. Lister. Though