

THE
MARITIME MEDICAL NEWS,
A MONTHLY JOURNAL OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY.

VOL. IX.

HALIFAX, N. S., AUGUST, 1897.

No. 8.

Presidential Address.

OUR DUTY AS PHYSICIANS AND CITIZENS IN THE WORK
OF SANITATION AND PREVENTIVE MEDICINE.*

By J. F. McDONALD, M. D., Hopewell, N. S.

Gentlemen, Members of the Medical Society of Nova Scotia :

I thank you for the honor done me at your last meeting, in electing me president of this society. I assure you I appreciate your kindness. In the performance of the duties of presiding over your sessions on this occasion, I solicit your assistance, and trust that the business and scientific work of this annual meeting will have your earnest, constant attention, so that the work may be forwarded with due despatch and deliberation.

Twenty-nine years ago the Medical Society of Nova Scotia was organized in this town ; since that time it has done, and is still doing, a good work. It is now one of the established institutions of our country, and we hope that the profession in the future will take a still greater interest in the prosperity of this society, for the advancement of the scientific and other interests of our noble profession. Sometimes, from certain indications, we are almost afraid that this profession we so much love is drifting toward a mere business, a trade : perhaps this is too pessimistic and we should look forward to the future with a more jealous regard for the honor and elevation of our profession.

Many changes have taken place in the profession since the date of the organization of this society. Of the men practising in this city at that time none are living to-day ; the same is true of New Glasgow.

*Delivered before meeting of Medical Society of Nova Scotia, at Pictou, July, 1897.