

Our Medical Colleges are well equipped in every respect. The teaching is of the best, and the practical work all that could be desired. There is plenty of material for clinical instruction, and every facility is offered to the student to gain a knowledge of the science of medicine. The opportunities for hospital work are good. We have between sixty and seventy hospitals in Canada, over forty in Ontario alone, and the medical staff in each hospital is up to date, and the work done excellent.

We have over a dozen well equipped Universities, a large number of Collegiate Institutes, high, public and separate schools, well provided with teachers, appliances and accommodation. In Ontario, attendance at school is compulsory. There are few countries, if any, that can boast a better system of education.

The progress that has been made in the science of medicine since the birth of this Association is marvellous. It would be impossible in an address of this kind for any man to adequately portray the changes that have taken place, therefore I say but a few words upon the subject. The advancement has not been exceeded by that of any of the natural sciences. Imagination thirty years ago would have failed to picture the condition of medicine to-day. We are well aware that medicine is not an exact science, and probably never will be, still it has been progressive, and never more so than during the past ten or fifteen years. The discoveries of Pasteur and Koch and their followers have revolutionized therapeutics. A new pathology has been created, based upon scientific knowledge. The technical means of histological and bacteriological research are now nearly perfect. We have arrived at an exact knowledge of physiological and pathological histology. We know it is now possible to diagnose with certainty many diseases which a few years ago offered great obstacles, and only after years of practice and experience could they be recognized. By means of the "X" Rays, the new light, which penetrates opaque bodies, dark recesses the contents of which were unknown are now disclosed and presented for study. Nothing in man's nature can escape the scrutiny of the natural sciences. Dr. Jacobi says:—"The sound mind, its aberrations and freaks, the soul, with its holiness or turpitude, no matter whether considered by the believing philosopher or the searching materialist, are topics of biological study." After the discovery of anæsthesia in 1846, the fields of research were widened and great advances made. The number of voluntary surgical operations was greatly increased, but unfortunately there appeared a dark cloud upon what had seemed a clear sky. Sepsis appeared, death followed, and surgery seemed as though it was