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EDITORIALS.

577

toba, 26; Saskatchewan, 26; Nova Scotia, 25; P. E. Island, 2. It would appear from these figures that outside of Ontario and British Columbia the profession takes comparatively little interest in the Association. Among cities Toronto supports it most strongly, having 136 members; Montreal has 43 members. The whole of the old Province of Quebec outside of Montreal has the small total of 19 members.

We learn from the report of the worthy President, Dr. Powell, that during last year the Association lost its first suit since its organization, and had to pay the costs. While only one case came to the courts, in ten other cases actions against members were threatened, but when the plaintiffs found that determined resistance would be made they withdrew. We hope the members fully realize the vast importance of the influence of the united body forming the Association in stopping threatened law suits. The financial position is excellent. After paying all expenses there is a balance in the bank of six thousand eight hundred dollars. Dr. Powell, the President, well deserves the thanks of the profession for the magnificent work he has done for this Association.

SIR WILLIAM OSLER

Must have been written & sent
by Adam Lupton

In the year 1869 three bright boys—Dick Zimmerman, Willie Osler and Fred. Grasett—took the first year examination in medicine in the University of Toronto. What became of those three lads from whom much was expected?

Zimmerman, the son of the railway king of Niagara Falls, completed his undergraduate course in

cf. Adam Lupton's letter

Toronto; stood first in every subject in the various examinations of the university, and graduated in 1872. He took a post-graduate course in London, England, and was one of the resident staff of St. Thomas' Hospital for a year. While there, Murchison, St. Thomas' greatest clinical teacher, said Zimmerman had one of the clearest and brightest intellects he had ever met. He returned from England, and commenced practice in Toronto in 1875. A brilliant career was predicted for him; but sickness and death soon came, and the name of Dick Zimmerman is scarcely known to the present generation of doctors.

Grasett completed his undergraduate course in Edinburgh, and did much post-graduate work in that city, being for some time one of Lister's dressers. He returned to Canada, and commenced practice in Toronto. Full of dash, energy and ability, he soon became known as an expert surgeon and an admirable teacher of surgery. He is still with us—active, keen and alert as ever—long may he live.

Osler completed his undergraduate course in McGill. Then, as now, there were great teachers in McGill; and all took an interest in the modest, enthusiastic, bright-eyed boy, who appeared different from other boys, perhaps, to some extent at least, because of his former associations with the great Bovell of Toronto. After graduating, and after faithful post-graduate work in Europe, he returned to Montreal and taught physiology in McGill. At the same time he did much work in pathology in a quiet way. For years he was the willing slave, so far as "dead house" work was concerned, of the medical profession of Montreal. While his friends made

heaps of money he was *working* and *living*. Soon he became a teacher of clinical medicine, and then came his reward. While working in the laboratory and post-mortem room he had not become a scientific prig or a visionary dullard. He never held the opinion that science and art in medicine should be divorced. He taught physiology, pathology, diagnosis and treatment at the bedside. Very soon his reputation as a teacher of medicine went far beyond Canada. The University of Pennsylvania wanted him, and McGill, unfortunately for Canada, as some thought, let him go. It seemed a misfortune then, but we doubt at present the correctness of such opinion. It will probably be conceded now that it was better for the medical world, Canada included, that Osler went to Philadelphia. Johns Hopkins soon wanted him, and got him. Then Osler developed a new trait. He showed himself to be a very able administrator; and, since his departure from Baltimore, no one has quite filled his place. But Johns Hopkins couldn't retain him. The old world wanted him and got him. Grand, majestic, venerable Oxford called him and he went. He had been climbing the great mountain of scientific medicine, and then reached the summit. One might suppose from his own teachings and writings that his success was due simply to hard work. We don't exactly agree, but we quite believe that without *work, work, work* he would never have reached such lofty heights. But there is another side to Osler. In climbing he never stepped on the necks of others. On the contrary he was ever sympathetic and generous towards his fellows. All his efforts in his associations with workers in our profession have been uplifting. When Osler was honored by the King his many

friends were delighted, but not surprised. We respect him because of his great ability; we admire him because of his wondrous versatility; we congratulate him upon the honors that have been heaped upon him; but, above all things, we love our dear Osler for the good that is in him.

ONTARIO MEDICAL COUNCIL

The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, with its governing body, which is generally known as the Ontario Medical Council, came into existence by Act of Parliament in 1866. We know of no one now living excepting perhaps Sir James Grant of Ottawa, who has an intimate knowledge of the various meetings of those, who after many consultations and much careful thought framed the Act which was passed at that time. Among the most prominent workers were Drs. J. R. Dickson, of Kingston; John Turquand, of Woodstock; Henry H. Wright, and W. T. Aikins, of Toronto. The desire of each of these promoters was to elevate the standard of medical education in the Province of Ontario. Many people now living have been told by these promoters about the enormous difficulties which had to be overcome. When the Council came into existence it was not pretended by any one that the new body was perfectly satisfactory in all respects. It seems unnecessary at the present time to discuss many of the crude methods of the Council in those early days, but we think it was generally admitted for many years at least that it did elevate the standard, especially so far as final examinations are concerned.