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THE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS.*

The value of occasional and stated gatherings of the principal leaders of medical thought in the various special departments is acknowledged by all. Certainly those who have attended this congress, now held for the sixth time, have felt its broadening influence. We are all apt to become narrow when we are devoted heart and soul to one specialty, be it medicine, surgery, physiology, ophthalmology or any other. When we meet nearly all the more prominent men in cognate interrelated branches of medicine in Washington every third year, we are sure to find that there are as interesting and as important questions in other specialties as there are in our own; and, moreover, we are sure to find that there are men of as acute intelligence, wide reading and original thought in other than

* The presidential address at the sixth congress of American Physicians and Surgeons, Washington, May 12, 1903.