

# CANADA MEDICAL RECORD

---

SEPTEMBER, 1897.

---

## OPENING ADDRESS AT THE 65th ANNUAL MEETING, BRITISH MEDICAL ASSO- CIATION, MONTREAL, 1897.

By T. G. RODDICK, M.D., M.P., President.

Professor of Surgery, McGill University.

You have been welcomed to the Dominion of Canada by the Noble Earl who is the worthy representative of our beloved Queen; you have been welcomed to the Province of Quebec, to which this city belongs, by our eloquent and justly-esteemed Lieutenant-Governor; the Chief Magistrate of our city has given you "*Cæd mille fialthe*" in a manner in which only an Irishman with such a great sympathetic heart as he possesses can give; and now I rise to welcome you on behalf of the medical profession in Canada, and to thank you for the honor conferred on this city and country by your presence here to-day. Would that I could find suitable language in which to thank you also for the high honor you have done me in electing me to preside at this great meeting of the British Medical Association, an honor which is appreciated none the less by the consciousness that it is not a personal matter but a compliment to Canadian medicine.

This meeting of the British Medical Association in Canada is an event which will serve still more to impress upon the memory of our people the year 1897, the year of the Diamond Jubilee of our beloved Sovereign, Queen Victoria. In no part of her vast Empire—not even in its very heart—did her subjects celebrate the great event with more enthusiastic loyalty and devotion than in Canada, especially in this province, the home of the French-Canadians. We Canadians of both tongues love and honor our Queen. Long may she live! Deeply, too, have we appreciated here the splendid reception accorded in the old home to our Premier, the Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, whose distinguished bearing and grace of manner eminently fitted him for the important part it was his peculiar privilege to play in the magnificent ceremonies of the Jubilee. A French-Canadian, Sir Wilfrid's presence in England as the chosen representative of the Dominion was an object lesson to the Empire and to the world in the harmony existing between the two nationalities which comprise the Canadian people.