

## ADDRESS.

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MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN—It is to me a source of pride and gratification to have the pleasure of extending to you to-night a word or two of welcome. Your meeting is great in its character. The Honorable Minister of Agriculture has announced that you have met in Canada three times, twice previous to the present time. This is the first occasion in which you have assembled in the Capital of the Dominion of Canada. During the past quarter of a century, in no department of science has greater progress or advancement been made than in sanitary science. In 1873, when I had the pleasure of listening to the inaugural address of the late Dr. Bowditch, of Boston, at Washington, in which he took a most comprehensive view of the importance of this whole subject, the impressions made on that occasion and the information disseminated throughout the wide world, were very deep. He struck the keynote that has placed sanitary science to-day on that important foundation on which it rests. He announced at that time that no less than two hundred thousand people were slaughtered annually, in the great American Republic, by inattention to preventable diseases. Mr. Simon, the great sanitarian of England, almost about the same time, stated the mortality in Great Britain was one hundred and twenty thousand annually, and Dr. Farr, the greatest statistician on the subject of public health that ever lived, stated the mortality in Great Britain reached fully a hundred and fifty thousand annually. When we consider this mortality, and that it arises from diseases that are purely preventable, is it any wonder that the sanitarians of the great American Republic should co-operate with those in the same department in Canada, and other countries, for the purpose of improving the health and happiness of our people? We know perfectly well that since the address of Dr. Bowditch, associations have been formed in a great many states of the American Republic, and are now carrying on active and energetic work, with the most practical results. And I am glad also to announce to the members of the American Public Health Association that the Province of Ontario has been up and doing in the past twenty-five years. The Government of Ontario has exercised its power and ability in the formation of a Bureau of Public Health, and they have quietly and judiciously examined into the wants and requirements of our people, throughout the length and breadth of the Province, and Dr. Bryce, as