

but I take the greatest possible pleasure in saying to you now that never before have I seen such a unanimous desire to maintain the good reputation of the city as has been displayed by my confrères since I announced to them the society's decision to visit the Capital again in this the closing year of the marvellous century, through a part of which we have all been passing. No dissentient or croaking voice has been heard, but on the contrary, the utmost loyalty has been extended to me in this my hour of trial. It is thus my labors have been lightened, and if we have in any measure afforded you collectively and individually a pleasant visit, I trust that honors will be divided, and my colleagues in practice in this city will receive at your hands their just quota. We are but a handful as compared with our sister cities, the great business centres of Ontario and Quebec, but our hearts are overflowing with welcome to the members of our beloved and honored profession from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Shortly after our return to our homes from the Toronto meeting the country was thrown into a flutter of excitement, when the diplomatic correspondence between England and South Africa was suddenly terminated by the memorable and pithy note emanating from Mr. Kruger, which set all England aflame. There was nothing for it but to resort to force as a means of backing up her reasonable demands, and so enlarged preparations were set on foot to plant the flag across the Vaal.

The world is not likely to forget the events of the autumn of 1899. From far and wide, throughout the habitable globe wherever Great Britain holds her mighty sway, came the same dutiful appeal to the motherland. This appeal was strong in its simplicity and earnestness. It is summed up in a few words: "Allow us to show that we are in very deed, and not only in name, a part of the British Empire. Let us reciprocate now for the early fostering care received during the trying days of our early existence, when we were struggling to establish something more lasting than a dependent colony." This appeal was not in vain, but was eagerly heard and allowed, and so it was that a purely volunteer contingent was mobilized and equipped and on the sea in about three weeks.

It was well known that the British army, with its organization resulting from long experience, would willingly and ably attend to the medical and surgical necessities of our men in the field, but the enthusiasm had spread beyond the rank and file of the combatants, and though the personal and pecuniary sacrifice was great, yet offers came pouring in from members of our profession, tendering their services to go with "the boys" to the front. It was known that the Royal Canadian Regiment would probably only require a modest surgical equipment, yet offers came from 120 surgeons to be allowed to volunteer for active service. It is only fair to