

Sir Charles Fitzpatrick, being then invited to address the audience, said :

Sir George Drummond, Ladies and Gentlemen

I am here to represent His Excellency who was most anxious to be present, but unfortunately the short notice received made his coming physically impossible. I am glad, however, that the opportunity is given me to be the channel through which his congratulations are conveyed to Lieutenant-Colonel Burland and his Sisters.

Montreal is justly proud of the marks of material progress that meet the eye of the visitor on every side,—your wharves, your warehouses, your banks, your public buildings, are an abiding wonder to the stranger who realizes that you have accomplished so much within a fistful of years. I am convinced, however, that the great majority of you are prouder far of the public spirit of your citizens, which has manifested itself in such institutions as the Macdonald Farm, the Royal Victoria Hospital, and McGill University. I feel that I am well within the mark when I say that nowhere has private wealth recognized its public obligations to the same extent as in this, the commercial metropolis of Canada. Of all the institutes I have mentioned, none, in my opinion, meets a greater want, or fills a greater need than the institute founded by Lieutenant-Colonel Burland and his Sisters, and dedicated to the memory of their father and mother. Hereafter the name of Burland will be associated with that of McGill, of Redpath, of Wolson, and of Macdonald, not to mention the names of the other benefactors of those institutions who are still living. They are present to the minds of all.

I said this Institute would meet a pressing need. Public health is the foundation on which reposes the happiness of the people, the prosperity and power of the country.