

his sword and calling a few men near him to follow, succeeded, under a very heavy fire in dislodging the rebels from their position."\*

Surgeon Reade's party consisted of ten in all, of whom two were killed and six wounded. Surgeon Reade was a Canadian, and one of two sons of a colonel of militia, both of whom greatly distinguished themselves as army surgeons. I might add that of the recipients of the Victoria Cross eight are medical officers, one a Canadian, and of the wearers of the D.S.O. thirty-eight are medical officers, two of them being Canadians, a record of which we may be justly proud.

Knowing the brilliant and meritorious services of army medical officers, it gives one a shock to learn that it was only after many struggles and much heartburning, after a prolonged period of unjust treatment, which, to my mind, is incomprehensible, that the medical service of the Imperial Army has reached its present point of high efficiency and excellent organization, a state of things largely due to the tenacity with which the leaders in the struggle have stuck to the text, and the cordial and active support which they have received from the medical profession throughout the Empire, chiefly through the medium of the British Medical Association and its *Journal*.

We, in Canada, have all the advantage which comes from the experience of others without the trials and anxieties which attend the gaining of experience, and I am happy to think that nothing but the best of feeling exists between the different branches of the service.

In conclusion, I beg to express the hope that this is but the first of many successful meetings of the Association. We have a useful professional and patriotic function to perform. Let us, then, to work to realize our ideals and serve our country and our King.

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\* Banks; *The Surgeon of Old in War*.