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## THOUGHTS ON A DECADE IN MEDICINE.\*

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**D**R. REEVE, after fittingly expressing his thanks for the honor conferred upon him, modestly disclaimed the thought either in dreams by day or visions by night that it would ever come to him. He could not, however, but feel that the success of the Montreal meeting was warrant for this venture, but frankly avowed that any credit for such success as may attend the second visit of the British Medical Association to Canada—and the prospects were bright—must rest largely upon those who have freely given most valuable help in various ways. It had been indeed a labor of love to bring from their posts of duty and busy round in the old home land the select and the elect of the profession. He greeted them not only for their own sakes as men whose names were already household words, or doubtless soon would be, but as worthy sons of worthy sires. For if Bacon, Shapeseare, Newton, Faraday, Kelvin, Clerk Maxwell, J. J. Thomson and other lights of literature, science and philosophy in the British firmament were blotted out there would only be a partial eclipse, for would not Hunter, Harvey, Sydenham, Jenner, Simpson and Lister present a resplendent galaxy?

The gathering was in a sense a cosmopolitan one. International comity had always prevailed in the profession; disease knows no distinction of country or race, and is the common lot of humanity. In the face of an ubiquitous foe it was natural that mankind should be as a unit in defence, and that the confraternity of the healing art should be undivided. The recognition of English talent and experience on the part of the late Emperor of Germany, and by the British sovereign in the case of that master of the science and art of bacteriology, Koch, and the action of the United States in calling to its counsels British experts in tropical medicine upon the threatened invasion of yellow fever, were graceful and forcible proofs in point. And they were glad in obedience to the unwritten code and by means of this gathering to cement the tie that already binds the great Anglo-Saxon people and those of the lands of profession. culture and erudition, France and Germany.

\* An abstract of the Presidential Address before the 74th Meeting of the British Medical Association August 21st, 1906.