

With respect to the other addresses, which it is customary to deliver on these occasions, medicine will be dealt with by one whose reputation is now world-wide—by our Osler—whose professional education was in great part received in this city, and who, I am happy to say, is still a Canadian. How he has been able to escape the alien law is a puzzle to many; but he has really only been borrowed for a time; he is merely passing through the United States in bond. We are only waiting until we can find a place large enough to hold him, when we shall coax him back. Sorry am I that his old colleagues in his own department of medicine, Howard and Ross and Macdonnell, are not here to share with us the genuine pleasure we experience in finding him in the position which he occupies to-day. One of these, the late lamented Howard, had much to do with moulding his career and setting him to the task which he has so ably accomplished.

You will hear addresses in Surgery and Public Medicine, delivered by gentlemen who have devoted their lives to their special subjects.

Before proceeding further, however, allow me, for the benefit of those who may not be acquainted with the work of the British Medical Association, to give in as few words as possible a general idea of its organization.

THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

When, in 1832, Sir Charles Hastings, of Worcester, communicated to a few of his personal friends the idea he had conceived of a medical association which should bring the whole provincial profession of England into a common brotherhood, it may be safely affirmed that he did not dream that he was laying the foundation of an association which would ultimately not only embrace the whole of the British Isles, but extend to that Greater Britain beyond the seas, and become an association of imperial magnitude and of imperial importance and significance. I have no hesitation in expressing my belief that the British Medical Association will be an important factor in bringing to a successful issue that great scheme of Imperial Federation which now exercises the minds, and, let me add, the hearts, of the leading statesmen of the Empire. Sir Charles Hastings' aim was to bring town into professional union with town, county with county; now it has become the aim of the Society he called into being to add State to State—and may I not say continent to continent?—until all the nations and peoples who live under the British flag are brought within the beneficent influence of the Association.