

And now I bid you welcome, welcome to this picturesque Province of Nova Scotia and to the City of Halifax.

I bid you welcome on behalf of the medical men of this province; for when it became known that the Canadian Medical Association was to meet here, there came in from all over the province, from the county societies and from individual practitioners, expressions of a desire to have a share in your entertainment, and therefore it is that we are here today as the guests of the Medical Society of Nova Scotia, and that we have listened to the warm welcome of its President.

In welcoming you to this place I should perhaps say a few words of introduction to a city and a province new, perhaps, to many of you. If you are interested in history, you will find much here to occupy your attention.

In the early morning mists of our history we see Leif Ericson, in his Viking galleys, steer along our coast. Four hundred years ago the Cabots took possession of these regions for King Henry VII. And then for two hundred years the intrepid navigators of Old France, De Monts, Champlain, St. Denis, LaTour, explored these bays and headlands.

If you can spare time to visit Annapolis you will find traces of the French occupation, and see still in good preservation the old powder magazine, the oldest European masonry in America north of Mexico, and built of stone brought from France. Midway in the province, you come to Grand Pre, with its crowded memories of the past, and its wide acres of fertile dyke lands which we owe to the industry of the early French settlers. And in the extreme east you will find the historic ruins of Louisburg, where the sea birds cry over the rain swept turf which covers many a gallant heart. Nova Scotia may indeed claim its share in thrilling memories of "old unhappy far off things and battles long ago."

We can point with pride to the distinguished names of many Nova Scotians. I shall avoid the troubled waters of political life and will mention only the fact that two of the most distinguished college presidents in this country were Nova Scotians, viz, Sir J. W. Dawson of McGill, and Rev. G. M. Grant of Queens'. In literature we are proud of the reputation of Haliburton. The hero of Kars and the defender of Lucknow were both Nova Scotians. Our ship builders