

REPLY TO THE ADDRESS OF WELCOME TENDERED THE
NEWLY-APPOINTED MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT
OF TORONTO GENERAL HOSPITAL.

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The Board of Trustees, Ladies and Gentlemen,—Let me assure you that I very much appreciate the good-will you have expressed toward me this evening, both by your presence here and your kind words. I sincerely hope that our relations will continue to be as full of hearty and reciprocal good-will and esteem.

A speech lasting the whole evening, it would be impossible in it to speak fully of the present status and future possibilities of hospital work in general, and of the Toronto General Hospital in particular. So I must content myself and please you by making my remarks very brief.

You are all more cognizant than I of the present condition of the Hospital; and it would be better to leave it to the days that are before us to solve as best we can the many difficult problems that will present themselves, and to carry out the undertakings which the Board and the medical staff have in view.

The Toronto General Hospital, since its inception, has done a magnificent work in the relief of suffering humanity; and its influence has been carried by those who have been trained within its walls to the uttermost parts of the earth.

When, in the first rush for gold to our far northern frontier, epidemics of enteric fever and scurvy prevailed, it afforded me great satisfaction to know that, if needed, I could secure the attendance of doctors and nurses trained in the Toronto General Hospital.

We have all a right to venerate this old pile for what it represents of unselfish and untiring labor on the part of most worthy medical men and hospital officers, who have passed on to their rest and left the work they loved to be carried on by others. Our predecessors did their work as best they knew how, with their comparatively limited knowledge and sparse equipment. It is given to us to carry on the labor with a larger knowledge and more complete appointments.

But, as a result of the rapid strides in medical science during the past decade, the equipment adequate at the beginning of that period is entirely inadequate for our purpose to-day. It rests with us to see to it that the Toronto General Hospital is the model hospital of Canada. Members of the staff should not be content