Dr. Charles Sheard, MB, MRCS

CMA President, 1892
Trinity Medical College, 1878
Public health

Dr. Sheard was active at Trinity Medical College in Toronto until it merged with the University of Toronto (U of T) in 1904. At the U of T he was a professor of preventive medicine, and he spent 17 years as medical officer of health for the city of Toronto. His CMAJ obituary stated that, despite considerable opposition, he brought to Toronto sand filtration and chlorination of the water supply, although these innovations “were not reflected by a lowering of the death rate until some years after he resigned the position in 1910.” Dr. Sheard, who died in 1929, served as President of the Ontario Medical Association before assuming the CMA Presidency. He also spent two terms in the House of Commons, “where he was known for his eloquence and freedom from acrimony.”