

Ross. This splendid contribution, with others in sight, if supplemented by reasonable assistance from our own members, brought within view the realization of a building in Queen's Park worthy of our profession and city.

The sudden breaking of the cloud which has so long threatened our Empire and the peace of the world, however, has dislocated the affairs of our country, and turned the resources and energies of our people from peaceful pursuits to a struggle against a military despotism, for not alone our national existence, but for the cause of freedom and the future of civilization.

These events have made it necessary that our plans for building shall be held in abeyance for the time being.

In this crisis, as in the past, our profession has stood ready to accept its share of sacrifice, not only in answering the call of duty in active service, but in contributing both time and money for the care of the needy dependents of our soldiers and for the relief of the increased sickness among the poor of our city. Most of us shall not have to face the dangers and hardships of active service, but the hearts and prayers of every Fellow will follow those of our colleagues, including the chairmen of two of our sections who have gone, and they may be assured that each of us will consider it not only a duty, but a privilege, to conserve as far as possible their interests in their absence.

During this session we are unlikely to be favored by visits from transatlantic colleagues, whose contributions to our programmes have been such a valuable feature of our meetings in past years. It is a great satisfaction, however, to know that we still have our good American friends to call upon, one of whom, in the person of Dr. L. G. Cole, of New York, we shall have the pleasure of hearing to-night.

There is none among us who does not look forward with confidence to the time when "danger's troubled night depart" and peace with honor shall be again established. In the meantime there is no duty more important, no service greater, which those of us who remain at home can render our country than loyally to uphold those institutions and interests committed to our special care.

May one go further, and express the wish that one among you more worthy had been in my place, to say that this is an opportune time to rise superior to personal differences, jealousies or friction; to set aside all "ancient forms of petty strife," and, emulating the spirit of political parties at home and abroad, to cultivate har-