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Original Communications.

ON CERTAIN ANIMAL EXTRACTS: THEIR MODE OF PREPARATION AND PHYSIOLOGICAL AND THERAPEUTICAL EFFECTS.*

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Gentlemen,—I wish I could believe all the pleasant things that my friend, Professor Roosa, has, in the goodness of his heart, just said about me. There are two expressions of his, however, which I know to be true. First, I scarcely need any introduction here, for though I have been away from you for more than four years, I feel that I am, if only for an hour or so, back among my own people, and I experience something of the emotions of the captain who walks the quarter-deck of his ship. Second, I am one of the founders of this school. I shall always regard the fact as the most honourable of all the events of my professional life--the one in which I take the most pride. The excellence of the work done here by the faculty, and the phenomenal success that has

attended upon their labours, are circumstances of which they may well feel a justifiable elation, and in which emotion I claim the right to share.

But I am not here to day to speak of the triumphs of this school. I want to tell you of some of the work upon which I have been engaged since I left you, and the story will, I think, interest a body of physicians like yourselves, who come here to learn new facts, and thus to keep abreast with the progress of the age. You remember that about three and a half years ago, Dr. Brown-Sequard electrified the medical and non-professional world by announcing that the expressed juice of the testicles of the guinea-pig was an agent capable, when injected into the blood, of arresting, to some extent, the inroads of old age, and of curing certain diseases to which mankind is subject. I at once entered upon a series of investigations of the matter, some of the results of which are published in the *New York Medical Journal* for August 13th, 1889. I became convinced that we had in the juice of the organs in question, a means of acting upon the body in a manner and to an extent different from that of the effects of any other substance previously known to medical science.

But, though surprising in its action, I found that there were certain practical difficulties in the way of the fresh testicular juice ever becoming of general use in actual practice.

In the first place, it had to be used fresh, for

*A lecture delivered at the New York Post-Graduate Medical School and Hospital, January 16th, 1893.