

thoughtful surgeon would tremble in the presence of his own observations, and refrain from reasoning out any theory based thereon to its logical conclusion and applying it in practice, lest peradventure it might land him in a contradiction of the previously accepted orthodox beliefs which, with all their accumulated load of inherited respectability, have been handed down to him to be carefully cherished and worshipped as the *ultima thule* of all truth and wisdom.

How many pathological, anatomical and surgical dogmas of the most venerable antiquity has our generation seen swept away like so many stumbling-blocks and rocks of offence in the benediction-laden ship of modern progress?

And in this great work may we not justly claim for the new world as large a meed of praise as for the old? Is it not a plain fact that the spirit of original investigation and independent speculation has been abroad in every section of this great western hemisphere, in consequence of which an amount and kind of surgical progress has been accomplished which has commanded the most respectful recognition from the whole world, and especially from those places in Europe which have hitherto been regarded as the very fountain sources of all medical and surgical truth?

This is one of the most remarkable, and to us at any rate, one of the most interesting features of this great surgical age. In times past American students have flocked to the European schools to complete their surgical education, and they do so yet, and undoubtedly with great advantage, nevertheless, the time has arrived when the necessity for such pilgrimages is becoming every day less and less apparent, and when the question is more and more asked, with ever-increasing show of reason, whether we are not in a position to make at least a reasonable return in kind for all that the East is able to bestow upon us, and to confer as valuable gifts upon the surgical pilgrim from Europe as American pilgrims were able to obtain there. The current has certainly begun to flow in this direction, and I am convinced that it will continue to do so until a course of American surgery will come to be regarded as indispensable to Europeans as in former times a European one has been to Americans. The beneficent results