

type selected had been especially large, in order that no straining of the eyes might remind them of how much the departing years were taking away from them. This was a story told by the kindly old pagan philosopher of the declining years, the declining years in the sense perhaps that one is compelled to decline all the good things and yet find many subjects for consolation in the years as they go.

Dr. Osler, in replying, said that he could not but feel that the happiness which came to him in the midst of all these manifestations of friendship was undeserved. He felt that he had been singularly blessed in the friends that he had made. He would yield to no man who claimed to have more or better friends than he had, and for this he could only say, "God be praised!" If success consists, he said, in getting what one wants, and being satisfied with it, then, indeed, success had been his since friends so precious had come to him. Always, however, there had been the feeling of lack of desert of the privileges that had come. When the invitation to present himself as a candidate to the position of clinical medicine at Philadelphia reached him at Leipzig, Dr. Osler was inclined to think it must be a joke. He was not sure with regard to it until two weeks later a cablegram reached him to meet Dr. Weir Mitchell in London. Boston measures men by brains, it is said, New York by bawbees, and Philadelphia by breeding. It was Mitchell's task to test his breeding. He did so by having him eat cherry pies, and noting how he disposed of the stones. As Osler disposed of them discreetly the breeding question was settled. Friends had spoken during the evening of his influence on Philadelphia. What he felt as one of the most precious things in his life was the influence of Philadelphians on him. To have been the colleague of such great men as Pepper and Leidy and Agnew and Ashurst, was of itself a liberal education in medicine, a suggestive influence in medical education and in teaching, whose power could not be exaggerated. At Johns Hopkins there had come the opportunity to do for America what had been so well done in Germany, to make a great teaching clinic. If he had accomplished anything, he felt it was by the introduction of Teutonic methods into American medical education.

Dr. Osler, continuing, said that even on an occasion like this he felt that he must say a word with regard to the hospital opportunities that are being wasted in America. In every town of 50,000 inhabitants in this country, there could be a good medical clinic from which would be issuing regularly distinct contributions to medical progress. For this, however, there must be a change in hospital equipment and methods of appointment. If a few men guided the destinies of hospitals instead of many, and if they were not too often the bone of