

interest our brethren from the Southern hemisphere to see such wonderful evidences of progress both in medical and every other art and science. Dr. Osler, formerly of Montreal, was on hand to extend a hearty welcome to his former countrymen, both at Washington and also at Johns Hopkins Hospital. At the latter city Dr. Howard Kelly received a large number, and gave a demonstration of catheterizing the ureters, which he performed with wonderful dexterity in less than a minute, and a coeliotomy performed with minute attention to details.

On the evening of the 6th Sept., previous to the concert, Dr. Pepper delivered in a beautiful, almost dramatic, style an address which should have been read at the opening meeting. However, a more cosmopolitan audience was probably secured by this course, for the delegates to the Congress were present in force, and in addition a number of non-professionals who could not have been present on the former occasion. Therefore, the address, which was an exposition of the purposes and scope of the Congress, reached the ears of a very much larger constituency, and will redound to the credit of the movement among many people to whom the ordinary proceedings are Greek.

The handsome and spacious hall was taxed almost to the utmost of its seating capacity when President Pepper commenced. He was accompanied to the front by several of the honorary presidents and distinguished delegates, while Dr. S. S. Adams performed the almost needless ceremony of introducing the speaker to the audience. Loud applause greeted Dr. Pepper as he stepped forward, and was equally vigorous at the close of his discourse, when he was called back for a few additional remarks. He spoke in part as follows:—

Gentlemen of the First Pan-American Medical Congress:

This occasion is a unique one, and the thoughts which force themselves on the minds of all of us are, I am convinced, so similar that the briefest greeting might well seem the most fitting address. But when I reflect that I stand here to represent the original committee appointed in pursuance of the resolution which was adopted unanimously on May 5, 1891, at the meeting of the American Medical Association, and that this resolution extended a cordial

invitation to the medical profession of the western hemisphere to assemble here in a congress, I realize the unusual dignity of the duty I must discharge. The recognition of the appropriateness of this great meeting has been immediate and universal.

The year whose four hundredth anniversary we now celebrate found the world stirred as never before. A work of tremendous importance for the future of the human race had been going on amid the gloom of what are often called the Dark Ages. The more closely this period of absorbing interest is studied the more do we appreciate the magnitude and the necessity of the changes effected during those centuries in preparation for the splendid activities of the renaissance. The mission of the Middle Ages had been really, though not obviously, a cosmopolitan one, and it was fitting that the noblest achievement of the renaissance should be the discovery of America.

In no respect, however, may the discovery of America be regarded as the dividing line between the Middle Ages and the Modern Era more truly than in regard to medical science. In spite of the prodigious learning of the most distinguished Arabian and Jewish physicians their medical science was far too largely speculative and philosophic. But the outcome of the long dominion of the Arabs and the Moors so far as concerns medical science, was merely a marked advance in chemistry and pharmacy, the introduction of many new remedies, and the advocacy of the union of the natural sciences with medicine. Their chemistry was tinctured strongly with alchemy, their clinical teaching was elementary, their diagnosis and treatment lacked the true Hippocratic force and directness.

The history of European medicine for more than 300 years is a record of which we may well be proud, when the enormous obstacles to progress are held in view. It is not necessary to remind this audience of a single one of its great triumphs. Vesalius and Pare, Harvey and Sydenham, connect themselves with Bichat and Laennec, and Hunter and Jenner, and Pasteur and Lister, and Virchow and Koch, and the torch of genius is passed down the line of these immortals, and lights up the ages with the splendor of their achievements. But it is sad to reflect upon what has been done