

in referring to the question of publishing the transactions of the Society *extenso*, that it was almost a reproach to us that this work, so well begun years ago, should have been allowed to lapse owing to lack of interest on the part of our members. These questions I would once more bring before you for your thoughtful consideration. I regret that our rooms, which are open daily from 2 to 9 p.m., for which we are paying a heavy rental, are not more largely patronized by the members. A number of good journals—and many more might be added if they were used—are always to be found on the table, and two good microscopes have recently been purchased, which are kept at your disposal. The Medico-Chirurgical Society is the one representative body which is open for membership to the entire medical profession. One of its chief aims has always been to enlist the sympathy and co-operation of all. Here the university teacher, the hospital clinician, the laboratory worker and the general practitioner may meet upon neutral ground; and in a broad and friendly spirit engage in the consideration of any question of common interest. Dr. Osler, speaking in these rooms two years ago, when referring to the years he had spent in this city, said that he looked back with greater pleasure to the meetings of the Medico-Chirurgical Society than to anything else; that he had always been able to pick up at the meetings a good deal in the way of knowledge, but what was perhaps of far greater importance, he had learned many priceless lessons of humility and charity; he had always fraternized with his colleagues and endeavoured "to turn the woolly side out." Such friendly intercourse must certainly be an important safeguard against the rule of the few; and if it does not confer complete immunity from, it is at least good prophylactic treatment against petty cliques and factions, which flourish in certain localities. From these evils we in this city have on the whole been remarkably free.

In conclusion, I wish to express my sincere appreciation of the great honour conferred upon me in electing me president of this Society. I would also acknowledge with gratitude, the kind and ready assistance which has been given at all times by the officers and members in general. To our Secretary, Dr. Gordon, I am particularly grateful, feeling, as I do, that the success of our meetings has been in a large measure due to his zealous and untiring efforts. Let us all endeavour to make it a matter of duty which we owe to ourselves as well as to the medical profession, to take a personal interest in the affairs of the Society, and to extend to our newly elected president and officers our generous and active support.