

The Lumleian Lectures

ON

ANGINA PECTORIS

LECTURE I.

Delivered on March 10th.

INTRODUCTION.

MR. PRESIDENT AND FELLOWS,—Twenty-five years have passed since I stood here, a much embarrassed junior, as Goulstonian lecturer. I have always had a keen sense of gratitude to the College for according recognition to a colonial worker at the time of life when such an action counts for so much, and I recall the intense pleasure of my colleagues at Montreal that one of their number had been selected for the honour. The subject of those lectures came within the ken of the younger Fellows, whose work is, or should be, largely in the post-mortem room and laboratory. And now kindly time has moved me among the seniors, and I have to thank you, Sir, for the opportunity to deliver the course distinguished among all others in the College, since in these Lumleian lectures the incomparable Harvey laid the sure foundations of modern experimental medicine.

I make no apology for the subject I have chosen—Angina Pectoris. In a very special way it is *our* disease, having been first fully described at this College by the English Celsus, William Heberden, and in a manner so graphic and complete as to compel the admiration and envy of all subsequent writers.

Like books, diseases have their destiny. Could Heberden return for a month's busy practice his surprise would be not less at the new cohorts of disease than at the disappearance of familiar enemies. How staggered he would be at the *Nomenclature* of the College! And he would be keen to write new commentaries upon old diseases with new names. How the word appendicitis would jar his critical ear, but how rejoiced he would be to see light on that dark malady, "inflammation of the bowels." Living through a century of