

one of the greatest triumphs of science. The demonstration of insufficiency of the thyroid gland is a brilliant example of successful experimental inquiry, and as time has passed the good results of treatment in suitable cases have become more and more evident. Before long, no doubt, we shall be able to meet, in the same happy way, the perverted functions which lead to such diseases as exophthalmic goitre, Addison's disease, and acromegaly; and as our knowledge of the pancreatic function and carbo-hydrate metabolism becomes more accurate, we shall probably be able to place the treatment of diabetes on a sure foundation. And it is not only on the organic side that progress has been made. Important discoveries relating to the metabolism of the inorganic constituents, such as those relative to acidosis, have opened a new and most hopeful chapter in scientific medicine.

But the best of human effort is flecked and stained with weakness, and even the casual observer may note dark shadows in the bright picture. Organotherapy illustrates at once one of the great triumphs of science and the very apotheosis of charlatanry. One is almost ashamed to speak in the same breath of the credulousness and cupidity by which even the strong in intellect and the rich in experience have been carried off in a flood of pseudo-science. This has ever been a difficulty in the profession. The art is very apt to outrun or override the science, and play the master where the true role is that of the servant.

And lastly, we have advanced firmly along a new road in the treatment of disease due to specific micro-organisms, with the toxic products of which we are learning to cope successfully. The treatment with anti-toxins and bacterial vaccines, so successfully started, bears out the truth of that keen comment of Celsus—"He will treat the disease properly whom the first origin of the cause has not deceived." We are still far from the goal in some of the most important and fatal infections, but anyone acquainted in even slight measure with the progress of the past ten years cannot but have confidence in the future. Considering that the generation is still active which opened the whole question, we cannot but feel hopeful in spite of disappointments here and failures there. But in our pride of progress let us remember cancer and pneumonia. The history of the latter disease affords a good illustration of the truth of the remark of Celsus with which I began this address. Year by year the lesson of pneumonia is a lesson of humility. For purposes of comparison statistics are not available, but it is not likely that the great masters from Galen to Grisolle lost a larger number of cases than we do. Pneumonia has always been, as to-day, a dreaded and fatal disease. For one thing let us be thankful. We have had the courage to abandon the expectorant mixtures, the depressants, the cardiac sedatives, the blisters, the emetics, the revulsives, the purges, the poultices, and, to a great extent, the