

tion and experiment are widespread, and as to results, fortunately, there is greatly increased reliance. Doubt, says Thackeray, is always crying "pshaw."

We must not begin by doubting, but by doing, and then sifting. A thousand doubters would not make a Lister, a Pasteur, or a Koch. Aristotle says if you doubt you must doubt well, but to doubt well you must first work well. I feel confident that one of the highest aspirations of this Society is that its observations, from year to year, may fructify and extend into all lands, and the reciprocity of feeling and action thus aroused, strengthen the scientific and literary ties of the world. In this prospective development we must all endeavor to assist.

The flame of science must burn within as a vestal fire. Drudgery and long waiting for opportunity are truly discouraging, but the Divine Spark will not disappear while the investigator is true and honorable, and keeping such in view for pure purposes. As a rule lecturers are teachers in a sense, and their work lives after them.

Voltaire says of Virgil, that he was Homer's greatest achievement. Dante was Virgil's greatest light. In science we find precisely the same. The man passes away, but his work remains after him; and so, in the records of our Society, we trust an influence will be exercised such as will redound to the credit of this association.

Our annual meetings present a feature of great interest in the reports of the allied scientific societies throughout the Dominion. It is needless to say how welcome are the representatives, and how much we value their taking part in our discussions, and thus stimulating in a most encouraging manner the interchange of thought which widens the area of scientific research.

The subject which I have chosen for the present discussion is "Brain Power and how to Preserve it." In the days of the ancient Greeks the composition of the body was, in a measure, defined by Aristotle, as being composed of parts differing from each other in form, consistency, color and texture. In these diversified parts brain and nerve tissues are exceedingly important factors. Not, however, until the concluding years of the eighteenth century was an impetus given to anatomical research, by the Hunters of England, the Meckels of Germany, as well as Cuvier and St. Hilaire of France, by whose untiring researches the minute structure of animal tissues, was placed on a more defined and uniform basis. In the past century great light was thrown on the entire subject of general anatomy by Xavier Bichat, one of the most accurate observers in all France, in the Napoleonic Era. The most remarkable advance, however, was made in the third