

PREFACE.

I make no apology for adding to an already enormous literature on *Arteriosclerosis*, but I ask the readers' indulgence for a possible criticism on the brevity of many discussions. The various processes which concern arteriosclerosis merit chapters for each, but the present undertaking was not intended to assume such pretentious proportions. As it is, the discussion has grown beyond our expectations.

The bringing together of the observations and facts concerning the processes of disease which affect the middle coats of the arteries is to emphasize the importance and frequency of these conditions. For some years attention has repeatedly been directed (Virchow 1856, Thoma 1883, Jores 1903) to the disease of the intima, with but casual reference to the medial scleroses. Heller, Chiari and others have demonstrated the importance of syphilitic mesaortitis, Moenckeberg has pointed out the frequency of medial sclerosis, but much can not be obtained in the literature concerning medial arteriosclerosis as a group disease.

Particularly to the clinician has the subject of arteriosclerosis been a difficult one,—and at the same time the most interesting. The protean manifestations of the disease are such that some type of it is to be observed by every practitioner and specialist. What has been its origin, what are to be the results, are questions which must be answered separately in each case.

It is hoped, that in putting together our own findings with those of others, we have at least to some degree, cleared this difficult subject of some of its underbrush and allowed the more important facts to present themselves.

This work was started in 1905 and was nearing completion when the author, in the disastrous fire at McGill University in 1907, lost the entire materials, manuscript and drawings. To repeat the work, recollect the literature, microscopic sections and drawings was disheartening and, I would almost say, uninteresting. The greater