

cation had been assigned a very important place in this gathering of the profession of America. It had been for many years a cherished idea with him, long before it had taken any definite shape or crystallization, that the accurate determination of the functions of the brain would in time lead to the successful treatment, by surgical means, of the most distressing ailments to which our fellow-creatures are subject. Regarding the results of his experiments upon monkeys and other animals, he sounded several of his surgical colleagues with a view to obtain from them assistance in cases which he thought might be the subject of successful surgical procedure, but received little encouragement from them. He was told that men were not monkeys, though they may be descended from them. About five years ago, at a meeting of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of London, he ventured more boldly to advocate the surgical treatment of cerebral disease, but he was honored with a denunciatory leading article in the *Lancet*, and thought this was so curious that he took note of it at the time. If one bears in mind the brilliant results of Macewen, Horsley, Keen, Weir and others, he thought he would see that cerebral surgery has amply vindicated itself as a justifiable branch of the art of surgery. When we consider the numerous cases of tumor that have been successfully removed, of abscesses evacuated, of epilepsy permanently cured by surgical procedure and in cases which have been clearly indicated from the localizing symptoms alone, then he thought one would say there is likely to be a great future before the cerebral surgery of to-day. He thought, however, we must be cautious, because in our newborn enthusiasm we may be apt to do things our better judgment and larger experience may not consider justifiable. He did not think the dangers of cerebral surgery to be altogether due to septic inflammation. There have been cases which have not been successful. He has seen several of these that have occurred in his own practice. That, however, is not more than is true of any great surgical operation. He thought that the cases of recovery are distinctly much larger in proportion than those in which evil results have followed. He confessed that in some respects he had been disappointed in re-