

retical speculation and abstract reasoning. The English school had been aroused by the brilliant researches of John Hunter, and the results of his extraordinary industry and patient study had made a marked impression. He died in 1793, but his labors had given a great impulse to the study of anatomy and pathology, an impulse which grew stronger and stronger in the early years of the century, and now at its close his name is held in admiration by surgeons throughout the civilized world, and his teachings are recognized as the foundation of British surgery. It must not be forgotten that at this time Scotland had aided in the evolution of the healing art, and that the medical faculty of Edinburgh had been elevated into a condition of prosperity by the labors of many famous men.

At this period, also, British medicine was powerfully influenced by the French school. In the early years of the nineteenth century, indeed, we could trace the birth of the modern school of medicine, and also the silent influence of many collateral sciences which helped forward its development. Doctors, too, began to mend their ways, and to leave undone many things long associated with the strange reasonings of the age. He referred specially to the work done by Edward Jenner in the first years of the century, and speaking of the recent modification of the vaccination laws, said it was difficult to realize, with all the accumulated evidence of a century, gathered from all the great European countries and the centres of America, that they, as a profession, should have to do combat with such dangerous legislation. In regard to general progress, the labors of the century had done much, not only in the direction of cure, but in the still higher way of prevention. It was not, however, until 1834 that the Legislature commenced action in the sanitary interests of the people, and began that long series of legislative changes which had issued in the protective legislation of modern times.

Then, the early part of the century would ever be recognized as the birthtime of modern pathology—the period when the huge chasm between dead morbid anatomy and living pathology began to be bridged over. Pathology would still advance, and the new discoveries of biology would serve as starting points of new pathological truths. At the same time, the order of biological criticism would be accepted as the test of every new pathological development. He next traced the development of the science of bacteriology, and spoke of the marvellous contributions it had made to our knowledge, and then dealt with the relations between the disorders of mankind and those of the lower animals, saying that this relationship would form an important part of future researches, while bacteriological investigation had already unfolded many important problems. Proceeding, he said:

Investigators have also recently been endeavoring to unravel the secrets of malaria poisoning. The dis-

ease has been traced by Surgeon-Major Ross and Dr. Manson to a parasite which has the power of assuming a latent condition within the human body. It actually lives in the interior of the red corpuscles of the blood. Dr. Manson thinks that it is removed from the blood by some suctorial insect, and that this insect is a species of mosquito. The parasite is propagated outside the human body. The insects are capable of infecting the larvae, and man is in turn infected by drinking the water contaminated by the mosquito, or by inhaling the dust of the dry mud of the pools in which mosquitoes have perished. After referring to these facts to show the great impulse bacteriology had given to the study of the intimate connection between the diseases of mankind and the diseases of animals, Dr. Cousins continued:

It is certain that the latter are far more often the agents by which diseases are distributed than we are at present able to detect. The same disorder in different animals produces very different manifestations, and the symptoms may be so variable that the recognition of a common specific cause is almost impossible. What may we expect from this young science in the future? We are only touching the fringe of its possible revelations. Much that has been done will have to be done over again, and much that has been written will have to be rewritten. How many questions have yet to be solved? Will the further evolution of bacteriology solve the great problem concerning immunity?

Another of the great developments of the century is to be found in the discovery of surgical anaesthesia, the story of which was told in detail by the president, who mentioned as an interesting fact that the original anaesthetic agents still hold the confidence of the medical world. With regard to recent advances in medicine, he said that bacteriology has already provided the physician with a new set of remedies; in diphtheria antitoxin has proved of marked utility; the treatment of tetanus both subcutaneous and intracerebral, appears to have been successful in some cases. As regards tuberculosis, enteric fever and cholera, we must wait the test of experience. The remedies have a scientific basis, and we may anticipate great progress. The inoculation with the serum of animals, immunized by bacteria and bacterial products, is one of the most hopeful developments of medicine. Another step forward is the discovery of the great value of the products obtained from healthy glands in the treatment of certain disorders.

The close of the nineteenth century will, too, be forever memorable for the great efforts which have been initiated for the prevention and cure of tuberculosis, not only in this country but in all civilized lands. It is a matter of great congratulation that the Prince of Wales is the head of a great national association which has been formed for the purpose of arresting as far as possible this dreadful scourge, and that in all the leading centres men of every class