

thus be objectionable. It relieves muscular and other pains of slight degree.

My slight experience with urethan has not been satisfactory. It usually has failed, though it was satisfactory in some cases.

Turpentine is recommended in the insomnia of worry; it probably acts as a vascular stimulant.

#### SOUTHERN SURGICAL AND GYNECOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

When the chill breath from the icy north steals southward and tints with red the leaves of our emblematic and lovely maple, we feel that, if we had the wings of the waterfowl and could all move together, their example would be quickly followed. When such an attraction as the meeting of the flourishing Southern Surgical and Gynecological Association is added to that of a few days sojourn in a summer air, amidst a hospitable people, but few would refuse an invitation to go to Richmond, Virginia, in November. The temptation was too great for me. The journey can be completed in 26½ hours. The city of Richmond is one of unusual interest. I drove out one afternoon with the ex-president of the Medical Society of the State of New York, an army veteran who served as surgeon-major with the army of the North about Richmond. The recounting of his prison life when in Libby prison and of many other incidents was of great interest to me. Now, in 1891, in the elegant drawing-rooms of members of the profession of Richmond; now gathered around the dinner tables of near relatives of Southern generals; now seated at the banquetting table, there is but one united body of surgeons—surgeons of the United States of America. The past has not been buried, but the misunderstandings of the past are such no longer, and in our profession one sees nothing but the greatest of harmony. At this meeting many met for the first time since the time of battle.

The work of organization fell to younger men. A genial type of a Southern gentleman, a worker of a high order in the field of modern surgery, Dr. Lewis T. McMurtry, the president of the Association, working side by side with another able worker from the rich mineral region of Alabama, Dr. W. E. B. Davis, completed the

programme that was so successfully carried out. Dr. Hunter McGuire, with his committee of arrangements, completed a splendid programme of social events. The social features were enjoyed by the members and guests fully as much as the intellectual feasts served up at the meetings. The newspaper editors were evidently just recovering from severe illness, and in their gratitude noticed the meetings with a liberality truly Southern.

Among those present were: Drs. L. T. McMurtry, Louisville, Ky.; J. McT. Gaston, Atlanta, Ga.; W. E. B. Davis, Birmingham, Ala.; Vander Veer, Albany; W. W. Potter, Buffalo; C. A. L. Reed, Cincinnati; Seymour, Troy; Morris, Emmett, L. C. Gray, Wells, New York; Joseph Price, Philadelphia; Stone, Washington; Kelly, Rohé, Opie, Baltimore; Marcy, Boston; G. Ross, T. Nelson Page, Hunter McGuire, Geo. B. Johnston, Winn, Wellford, Richmond; and many others.

The list of papers has already been published elsewhere, and the transactions will be printed and bound in a handsome volume without delay. The annual fee for membership is but ten dollars, and yet the society publishes its transactions and has a surplus on hand. It is to be hoped that our Canadian societies will soon wake up and follow the good example of the Southern Surgical and Gynecological Association. It is not as large an association as our Ontario one. Our material is either used in building up other journals or transactions, or is lost. There is no encouragement to good work when papers are simply read at race-horse speed, in full or by extract, at a small meeting, and are lost, together with the discussion, that is often more valuable than the paper. With a membership of 200, our Ontario Association could readily publish papers and stenographic reports of discussions for a membership fee of five dollars a year, and perhaps a little extra for each volume. The Southern Association charges nothing for the volume to members, and pays for all plates inserted. There are two methods of publication, an expensive and an inexpensive method.

We have brains in Canada; we have as fine a body of general practitioners in Ontario as can be found in any country; and as it was in the Southern States until 1887, so it is here to-day; some splendid surgical work is being done by