

SECTION OF OPHTHALMOLOGY AND OTO-LARYNGOLOGY, TORONTO ACADEMY OF MEDICINE*

BY DR. J. PRICE-BROWN.

Gentlemen:

I desire to express to you my sincere appreciation of the high honor you have conferred upon me by electing me to the responsible position of Chairman of this Section. I need scarcely say that it is with feelings of gratitude on the one hand and temerity on the other that I accept this office. The gentlemen who have filled this chair in the past have been distinguished not only by the faithfulness with which they have discharged the duties devolving upon it, but also by the erudition and scientific knowledge which they have manifested when occasion required. The onus of the chair has increased from year to year, and the manner in which its dignity and influence have been sustained has called forth, I feel sure, the willing support and high appreciation of every member of the Section.

This year, by your favor, based upon the process of alternation from ophthalmology to oto-laryngology, and on the principle of *seniores priores*, the occupancy of the chair has fallen to my lot, and I assure you that I shall perform the duties pertaining to it as faithfully as I can; and, weak though it may be, with all the ability that I possess, hoping and believing that I shall receive the cordial support and assistance not only of the Secretary and Editor, but also of every other member of the Section.

Let it, if possible, be our banner year!

There is a large measure of charity in the heart of every man, no matter how high he may have climbed the professional ladder or penetrated into the holy of holies of collegiate halls; and while we may rub each other pretty severely when occasion demands it, let us do it in all fairness and with that fraternal *bonhomie* that sharpens the sweetness of the rose and makes the frictions of life the heralds of its pleasures.

In selecting a subject for an opening address there are many themes that could be drawn upon, and it has been suggested that I might combine a brief reference to the long past with a running commentary upon the achievements of the present year in that division of our sectional work with which my professional life is associated.

Looking back over more than four decades to the days of my

*Chairman's address, October 20, 1910