

shoulders of a few men mainly residing in Great Britain or Ireland. I need only mention one, Donald Ross, and the guest of this evening, Sir A. E. Wright (applause), and without any further preface I will call on Sir A. E. Wright to give his address.

SIR ALMROTH E. WRIGHT (rising amid applause): Mr. Chancellor, Mr. Dean and Gentlemen, as you may have noticed, the Dean did not announce the subject matter of my address. That was what we call in the laboratory "a touch of nature"—I mean it was done by design. When I was asked to give this inaugural address I was overcome with the feeling of responsibility in addressing so many people, for I have not addressed more than a half or a third of this number at one time, and of course responsibility increases with the number of auditors. Again, when I came to consider the subject matter of my lecture I thought of addressing you on the "Physiology of Belief." When I suggested that subject to some of my fellow passengers on the steamer they said, "Anything else but that"; but I still want to leave it in doubt whether I am going to address you on the "Physiology of Belief" or as an alternative on some of the work I have been doing with my pupils on inoculation. I hold that the physiology of belief would be far more interesting and far more important. It would be a disquisition on the changes that occur in the body when you accept anything as true, and the evidence on which you accept things as true. The most important faculty of the human mind is not to remember things told, nor is it even to comprehend and pick up things given, but it is judging between truth and falsehood, and if I could in an hour's time tell you the test whereby you could determine whether the things you believe are true or not, I think I should have done more service than if I gave you one shred of knowledge that we have collected in our work. But I know your feelings would be against that, therefore I am not going to address you on the physiology of belief and why we accept some things as true and others as not true, but I am going to put that aside and consider the alternative subject, which is the treatment of certain diseases by inoculation. The work I am going to bring before you indeed is not my work alone, for I have had a number of very zealous students with me. When I tell you we can get men to sit up till three o'clock in the morning, not one day alone, but day after day, in order to plot the curves which hang before you, and that every dot in those curves represents three or four hours' work as a rule, and that we have people who will take curves like that and sit up night after night, dividing the night into watches, in