

to envy, malice and all uncharitableness. Then he produces a paper which Lister, the mildest of men, in his answer, says consists of two elements: "One tending to disparage my character as a surgeon, the other calculated to diminish the effect of the statistics which I have lately adduced in favor of antiseptic surgery. The former of these elements I shall beg leave to dismiss without further notice than to remark that as Mr. Spence never did me the honor to witness the practice which he criticizes, so that his knowledge of it must have been derived entirely from hearsay, the exercise of a little charity towards a late colleague might have induced him in every one of the points to which he refers to accord a more generous and at the same time a more just interpretation."

This called forth from Spence a powerful reply and Mr. Watson Cheyne furnished full statistics of Lister's results. Mr. Spence's reply to this was so severe that the editor of the *British Medical Journal* suppressed parts of it and said his remarks as to Cheyne were scarcely worthy of so eminent a surgeon.

If in the discussion of this momentous question some sharp blows were given and taken until conviction gradually became universal, yet from time to time Lister received marks of honor and appreciation that were unusual.

On leaving Edinburgh, he vacated the office of Surgeon to the Queen in Scotland, yet in 1878 he is gazetted as a surgeon extraordinary to Her Majesty in the place of Mr. Hilton. In June, 1879, Dublin University gave him the M.D. *honoris causae*, and in conferring it the Dean of Faculty said: "They might claim for him merits equal, if not superior, to the merits of Simpson in reference to anesthesia."

It would be wearisome to give any adequate idea of the degrees and honors conferred on him by countless learned societies the world over. One only would I like to refer to, coming as it did at the time of these severe criticisms already mentioned.

In September, 1879, the *British Medical Journal* says: "The enthusiastic ovation with which Prof. Lister has been honored this week at the International Congress of Amsterdam by the body of surgeons and physicians of all nations who were assembled there will cause great joy in Kings College and Hospital, which have the advantage of possessing the surgeon whom Europe delights to honor. The honors which have been heaped upon Lister by every country in the world are not perhaps without precedent in the history of medicine; but we know no precedent for the enthusiasm which his presence creates in every assembly of medical men in Europe and the almost regal reception everywhere accorded