

toms of uremia. A lethargic condition supervened, and the patient died insensible.

Dr. Henry Howard then delivered the following address:—

RETIRING ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT, DR. HENRY HOWARD.

GENTLEMEN:—The 2nd By-Law of our society, speaking of the duties of the President, says, "He shall present at the annual meeting in a paper a 'resume' of the proceedings of the year."

It is now twelve months since you did me the honor of electing me to the Presidential Chair of this society. I felt then how great an honor you had conferred upon me, and now that the year has drawn to a close I feel more keenly how great was that honor. I do not believe in that pride that apes humility. I hate hypocrisy, no matter under what form it presents itself or in whom it presents itself, and I feel I would pay but a poor compliment to your intelligence, a still worse compliment to your manhood, were I to come before you this evening and, with mock humility, say, that I feared during the past year I had not done my duty by this society, when I feel sincerely that I have. Not, mind you, that I claim to have done all that could have been done by another more capable than I am, but that I did my duty because I did my best, and any man who has done his best, no matter how far short he may fall of perfection, that man has done his duty. In this light, and this light only, do I claim to have performed my duty to this society. My pleasure at meeting you here at our regular meetings has been very great, and this pleasure has been enhanced by the good attendance of the members, the support I have received from all the officers of the society, as well as all the members; more particularly have I been pleased at the many interesting papers read before the society during the year, bringing out for our instructions such interesting and practical discussions, and all these discussions carried on in so gentlemanly a manner, that none could possibly take offence, because all knew that no offence was meant.

There are but few societies, gentlemen, that can thus boast; few societies where men meet and warmly discuss subjects, the members holding widely different views upon many questions brought before them, and yet no one give offence

in his remarks. And why is this? Simply because we never allow to be discussed in this society any of the burning questions that breed envy, hatred and malice amongst the human race. We, when we meet, rise far above these questions; we assemble, each and all, to instruct and be instructed, that each and all of us may be the better prepared to perform our duty to our fellow-man, by relieving what is common to all—suffering. Yes, there is no denying but that suffering is common to all; so common from the breach of natural laws, by either our progenitors or ourselves, that we might be lead to believe that suffering was the natural state of man; but the proof that such is not the case is that no man likes suffering, and we all like what is natural and all without exception, seek to be relieved of suffering; and such is the high position to which the members of the medical profession are called, the high and holy office of relieving suffering. And when we members of this society meet together I trust we never lose sight of this important fact of how high is our calling, and therefore, the greater is our obligation to collect all the knowledge we can from the different sources that science and the experience of others has opened up to us.

And here I feel it my pleasing and bounden duty to, for myself and the society, return thanks particularly to one member of the society for all that he has done for us, done for medical science, during the year that is past. He has, if I may be allowed the expression, fed us with this science, and not only fed us with, but given us an appetite for it, and I trust he has imparted to us a portion of his own healthy enthusiasm, so that the more of this scientific food he gave us the more we looked for, and he did not disappoint us, for his recreation was to search in the Atlantic Ocean to still obtain more knowledge, and he came back to us laden with good things, part of which was to demonstrate to us the heart of the sword fish, explaining to us its comparative anatomy, its physiology, and the circulation of the blood in that monster of the deep. None of us, I hope, will ever forget the many interesting pathological specimens that he brought before us, and so ably explained during the past year. Then, again, his anatomical preparations of the brain, what can surpass them? so perfect and so beautiful, be-