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PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

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First, before all else, it becomes my pleasant duty to thank the Fellows of the Academy for placing me in the position I now occupy.

The honor came unsought, and is for that reason all the more appreciated. I count it no light thing to have been thought worthy to follow those recognized leaders of the profession who have been previously accorded the highest office in your Society. The evolution of the Academy from the societies, by the union of which it came into existence, is in line with medical progress the world over. In all great centres of civilized population the day of the small medical society, of the proprietary medical school, and of the ill-equipped hospital is passing or has already passed.

Modern life, with its complexity of needs has made it imperative that bigger and better organizations should replace those which formerly sufficed. To be bigger is not of necessity to be better. While in the changes that are taking place much has been gained some things of value have been lost. Nelson behind wooden walls needed a generation to gain for England what Togo did for Japan in one morning's use of what modern science had placed at his command.

The Rolph School here, the Woman's Hospital under Sims and Emmett, and the Royal Infirmery under Syme did splendid and long-to-be-remembered work, but just as it has become impossible for any one man to be a universal specialist, so has it come about