

in the diseases to which flesh is heir with special reference to their detection, prevention and treatment. And now, gentlemen, I can only repeat what I said to you last year. I will do my best. I rely upon you. The success of this Society does not depend upon the efforts of me as your President nor upon any other individual member. To secure success all must assist. I feel confident that in the future, as in the past, all will continue to take an active part in maintaining what I regard as the phenomenal success of this Society so far.

In accordance with the time honoured custom it now becomes my initial duty to open the first meeting of the ensuing year's proceedings with what by courtesy may be called the President's Address.—

In deciding upon what subject I had better bring to your attention this evening I must confess I was met with no small difficulty. A purely technical discussion of some of the many subjects of general interest to members of our profession I deemed inappropriate. Such a discussion would be more fitting at our regular meetings. To find a subject which, while it might prove interesting, would not be of this special character was the first difficulty in preparing this inaugural paper. It occurred to me that as business men are in the habit of taking stock at stated intervals it would not be out of keeping with the aims of this Society if we should attempt to follow their example. I do not mean that we individually should take stock in the business sense of the phrase but that as a profession we should ask ourselves the questions, What have we accomplished? and What have we to do? While the business man will take stock at least once a year, it appeared to me that in the sense in which I am using the term our stock-taking should extend over a longer period. The closing years of a century would naturally seem to be an appropriate time to consider the two questions which I have asked. But, gentlemen, do not imagine that I purpose extending my enquiry over such a lengthened period nor that I am going to attempt to answer these questions fully even for a much shorter space of time. To do so would require more time than we have at our disposal this evening and would call for a more extensive knowledge than I have the temerity to lay claim to. Many things have been accomplished by the profession during the