

meets man in social converse, each one ready to impart, and each ready to receive, something that they did not know before,—some new idea—some new suggestion. Each one of us, I doubt not, has something to impart, or he may believe that he has. To do so in honest kindness will materially add to the importance and success of these meetings, because any views brought forward will be the text on which an interesting and instructive debate will follow. It is to be desired that discussion should, as far as possible consistent with the time at our disposal, be fostered. We meet for that purpose; not so much to hear the dogmatic enunciations of adepts in our art, as to take cognizance of the views, expressions, observations and records of all who have anything to say. Seeing, then, that this is so, and I feel that it will give greater satisfaction to you all than otherwise, I shall advise that we meet in sections, which, according to the second division of our By-Laws, we are enabled to do. The clause reads as follows :

“The general meetings of the Association shall be restricted to the morning sessions. The afternoon sessions shall be devoted to the hearing of reports and papers and their consideration in the following sections—

1. Chemistry, Materia Medica, and Medical Jurisprudence.
2. Practical Medicine and Obstetrics.
3. Surgery, Anatomy, and Physiology.
4. State Medicine and Psychology.

The members of the Association assembled shall have power to to resolve themselves into sections and choose their officers.”

By this method two or more sections can be carrying on the business of the Association at the same time, a larger amount of purely scientific work will be transacted, and each member will have an opportunity of hearing the opinions of his fellows and of expressing his own.

In all subjects for discussion we expect something new—something that has not altogether appeared to us as holding the same relationship, or of being of such importance as it is regarded to hold by the propounder of the question at issue; in all such debates we should be ready to receive truths, if they are truths,