

terests of the profession. Those who recall the crusades of the anti-vaccinationists and anti-vivisections will agree that the *Journal* is at once a faithful sentinel and a doughty champion.

It would be interesting, did time permit, to trace the growth of this great organization from its early days to its present commanding position. But I must at least call attention to an incident of the first meeting, which explains much of the valuable work done in these years. Steps were taken to secure special studies on anatomy and the chemistry of the animal fluids. The researches on these subjects reported the next year were the first of a long series made under the auspices of the Association, which so far has given of its funds about \$70,000 to meet in part the expense involved. This feature of the Association's work forms a bright chapter in her history, and is in marked contrast to the apathy and lack of support of the Government, whose attitude in this regard has often to so many seemed unintelligible. Nothing seems more certain than that money spent in such a cause yields a thousandfold return or more.

THOUGHTS ON A DECADE IN MEDICINE.

The last decade is more than ten years. We are the heirs of the ages, and though the dead past may and should be buried, the living past with its germs of truth, its seed of thought is in these latter days bearing fruit quietly, it may be, but as surely as the dawn is wont to creep on into day.

The falling of the apple set in motion a train of thought in Newton's mind which led to gravitation, but it was as if just then his mental eye had been lit up by a ray which had speed for ages from the source of light. Many years were surely compressed into the decennium in which Lister and Pasteur, Koch, Metchnikoff and Behring, with genius and untiring energy in quest of truth, solved their mighty problems and gave the world such talismanic words as antiseptis, asepsis, immunity and serumtherapy.

The work of Pasteur, Lister, Koch and others proved not only a vast boon to man and beast, but a grand object lesson to mankind, and recent years have seen the result in princely gifts in the interests of science and humanity. Scientific medicine cannot fail to profit largely, for medicine as a science does not stand alone; it rests upon biology, physiology, chemistry, physics, psychology, etc.; and the various laboratories that now exist, or are to be in the near future, mark the dawn of even a brighter era, let us hope, than the brilliant epoch of the last