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Certainly it is excellent discipline for an author to feel that he must say all he has to say in the fewest possible words, or his reader is sure to skip them; and in the plainest possible words, or his reader will certainly misunderstand them. Generally, also, a downright fact may be told in a plain way; and we want downright facts at present more than anything else.—RUSKIN.

PREVENTIVE MEDICINE IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK.*

BY HERMAN M. BIGGS, M.D.,

Pathologist and Director of the Bacteriological Laboratories, Health Department, New York City, and Professor of Therapeutics and Clinical Medicine and Adjunct Professor of the Practice of Medicine, Bellevue Hospital Medical College.

I DESIRE to express my high appreciation of the honor conferred upon me by the invitation of the Council of the British Medical Association to deliver the address on Public Medicine at its annual meeting, and for this I wish to render my grateful acknowledgment.

I interpret the invitation, however, as a tribute to the work of the Health Department of New York City, with which I have had the honor to be connected for many years, and as an expression of the desire of the Council to give recognition to the practical advances made in sanitary science in the greatest city of the New World. I have, therefore, regarded your invitation as a command to select for the subject of this address the consideration of some of the measures which have more particularly distinguished the work

*Address in Public Medicine delivered before the British Medical Association in Montreal, August 31st to September 3rd.