

ous and diversified to satisfy the tastes even of those who might come for diversion only. Happily, however, we have none such in this association. Our resident Fellows in this beautiful city had prepared such an elaborate festival programme that the Executive Council, in the interest of science, was compelled to cut it down to a point which would leave *some* time for the reading of papers and the discussions.

Early in the present year an invitation was received through our Honorary Fellow, Dr. August Martin, Secretary of the Berlin Obstetrical and Gynæcological Society, requesting the attendance of an official delegate from this association at the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Berlin society. By a vote of the Executive Council the president was appointed as your representative, and attended the meeting in Berlin in May last. The courtesies extended by the Berlin Society were extremely cordial and graceful, and the action of this association in accepting the invitation was warmly appreciated. I was highly gratified to find that the work and the workers of this association are fully recognized and admired by our European colleagues.

While we have reason for gratification at the constant accessions to our ranks, we have to mourn this year the passing of one of our founders, Dr. Hampton Eugene Hill, of Maine, and of two of our most distinguished Honorary Fellows, Dr. Alexander Dunlap, of Springfield, O., and Dr. Arthur Wellesley Edis, of London.

Dr. Dunlap was a veteran abdominal surgeon. Those who, at our Cincinnati meeting, had the privilege of hearing his own account of his first ovariectomy, done just fifty-one years ago,* can appreciate what courage was necessary in those days to open the abdomen.

Dr. Edis was well known to us all through his admirable manual on the "Diseases of Women" and other publications on gynæcological subjects. He also held, at one time, the distinguished position of president of the British Gynæcological Society.

Dr. Hill was a founder and enthusiastic Fellow of this association. He was a modest gentleman and a fearless and ready surgeon, fulfilling the demand of Dr. Dunlap, that a surgeon must be a man who can always "keep himself perfectly calm and his mind free from excitement under all circumstances." Those who have heard Dr. Hill relate his experiences in abdominal surgery realize that he was such a man. His record, perhaps unique, of twenty-five recoveries in the first series of twenty-six operations, is one that all of us who are less gifted and less successful may well envy.

The temptation is strong to linger over the details of these noble lives and draw from them lessons to guide and uplift us who remain, but this is a duty that must be left to others more competent.

The choice of a subject upon which to address you from the chair has

*September 17th, 1847.