

woman, too movable a condition of the liver, the stomach entirely too low in position, its greater curvature below the umbilicus, the transverse colon below the same point, one or both kidneys abnormally movable, and the uterus and appendages crowded down out of place. The result of these displacements I need not dwell upon. It has not been my experience to find anything approaching such a condition of the abdominal organs in men, and one is driven to the conclusion that enteroptosis in women depends to a very great extent upon their methods of dress—the chief offending factor being that abomination, the corset.

Looking back fifty years or less at the work done by medical men at that time, one cannot fail to be struck by the immense advances made in all branches of our profession. Bacteriology was then unknown, with all the daylight it has thrown upon diseased process. Clean, and, therefore, successful, surgery did not exist, and little had been done in that greatest and most promising of all branches of our work, preventive medicine. Without doubt, we are inclined to look upon the knowledge of our predecessors as meagre and of little account in comparison with our own ; yet it requires no stretch of the imagination to picture the members of our profession fifty or one hundred years hence, in their turn, looking back at us and wondering at our ignorance and want of knowledge.

It happens only occasionally that a man of sufficient originality of mind arises, like Pasteur, to discover the part which bacteriology plays in disease ; or, again, like Lord Lister, to establish the simple fact that the unkind behavior of wounds is dependent upon their invasion by germs ; or, again, like Lawson Tait, to give us clear ideas concerning tubal pregnancy and the pelvic diseases of women, and to demonstrate that the peritoneal cavity is the safest part of the body for surgical work instead of the most dangerous.

We cannot too greatly honor these men ; the whole world is in debt to them—we medical men more than anyone else.

Other problems remain, requiring elucidation, amongst which is that of cancer—the *bête noir* of our profession. This requires another man of genius to dissipate the mystery of it, to tell us what it is, and to give us a remedy.

Meetings of the medical and surgical associations of large districts and countries are most useful. At these meetings the most advanced ideas upon all subjects connected with our profession are brought forward and discussed, and reports of such views and discussions are placed before the world in the periodical