VICTORIAE

REGINAE ET IMPERATRICI

Per annos sexaginta Res Britannicas feliciter gerenti Salutem plurimam dicunt Medicinam Profitentes.

*οὐκ ἀγαθὸν πολυκοιρανίῃ εἰς κοίρανος ἔστω,
εἰς βασιλεὺς.*—HOM. II. II. 204.

“Semper honos nomenque tuum laudesque manebunt.”—VIRG. Æn. I. 609.

Quo fonte virtus, quo fluat imperi
Splendor Britannis, Pieri, nos doce
Quae cuncta despectas ab ortu
Solis ad Hesperium cubile,

Quae claustra calles rumpere temporis
Parvasque nostrae primitias rei
Ostendere et vinctos Latinis
Compedibus Silures ducemque

Pro Claudiana sede Caractacum
Fatis resolventem ora:—“Quiritibus
Non usque durabit superbum
Imperium neque semper Urbi,

Ex aede celsa prospiciet Pater
Ultorve Mavors: saecula quattuor
Labentur et ‘Rerum Magistra’
Barbaricae imminuetur Arcto.

Nam per Columnas Herculis ultimos
Cursus Ulixes dum tenet, Insulas
Visum Beatorum, ad Britannos
Devehitur, neque inhospitali

Usus tyranno, reddit aquis suos
Secum refectos, non animo sine
Grato futurorumque nostrae
Nuntius Albioni bonorum,

Quam fatur olim magnanimū fore
Matrem virorum, duplicis imperi
Largam, subacturamque terras
Et maria Æneadis negata,

Donec ruinis altior Italis
Staret suprema, et Dis melioribus
REGINA et, informata fungi
Plus vice Caesarea, IMPERATRIX.”

Quae fert Britannis rex Ithacensium
Romaeque prodit fata Caractacus
Non credituræ, quam probata,
Quam fuerint rata dicat Orbis:—

Dicant triumphi pacis et ingeni
Humanioris, partaque civibus
Cum lege libertas, et alma
Religio genetrix Salutis:

Dicant et artes muneraque indolis
Caræ Camenis, seu lapidi datur
Vis viva, seu pictis tabellis
Floquium, geniusve libris:

Dicant paternae provida Curiae
Consulta, et imis aequa reis Fora, et
Ordo Sacerdotum verendus
Rite gerens Cruce se minorem.

Testes tot inter nec comitem abneget
Mens Æsculapi, militis unice
Pugnacis et nacti tropaea
Non ducibus data bellicosus;

Quo civitatem quis status adjuvet
Curante, pestes inque aciem cohors
Producta caesarum facessunt,
Terga vel ante tubas daturae;

Qui sopit aegros rore per halitum
Donante lethæ, ne metuant pati
Ferrum quod admorit severum
Vimque salutiferam Machaon;

Qui cultor audens nec tamen impius
Rerum parentis scit penetralia
Intrare vitæ non profanis
Luminibus prius haurienda,

Morbūque in antris opprimere intimis,
Ut dormientem Protea, mox sua
Consilia aperturum, quot arma
Ludere, quot soleat timere,

Mos unde nobis normaue sanior
Deducta firment et genus et domos
Dum major integremur aetas
Inque vetus referamur aurum.

Princeps ter alma et tot sata regibus
VICTORIA! Orbi praebita, cœu redux
Astraea, et adscribenda caelo,—
Sera tuis abeas alumnis!

Praesentiori numine nam tuo
Fortuna nobis defluet amplior
Illi propinquatura metæ
Usque piis animis petitaæ,

Quo cum mearint, verius Insulas
Visent Beatas quam vagus Hercules,
Andax Atlanteas per undas
Hesperidum rapuisse poma.

Badae Helvetiorum
Id. Jun. MDCCCXCVII.

J. P. STEELE,
M.D. EDIN.

ARGUMENT.—The Muse of History, invoked to reveal the origin of Britain's greatness, recounts the Claudian subjugation of the Silures and the prophetic discourse of their chief, Caractacus, before the Emperor's tribunal. In four centuries from that date Rome will succumb to the Barbarian North, for (adds Caractacus) Ulysses in his last voyage in quest of the Happy Isles, being storm-stayed on the British coast, was hospitably entertained, and, in return, predicted the future power and expansion of his hosts till, under a “QUEEN and EMPRESS,” they would rule a world wider than that of Rome, purer in religion, and more civilised. How far that prophecy, recalled from the grey foretime by Caractacus, has been fulfilled let the contemporary world attest by the triumphs of peace, of liberty under law, and of Christianity; by the fine arts—sculpture, painting, literature; by the Senate, the courts of Equity, and the Church; but not least by the triumphs of the Healing Art, as seen in State Hygiene, in painless Obstetrics and Surgery, in the treasure-trove of Physiology and Pathology, giving the key to the inmost recesses of the human organism, surprising latent Disease like the sleeping Proteus, and forcing it to give up its secrets as to the cause, the course, and the cure of suffering. To the advance of Medicine there is no bound, accelerated as it is by the enlightened sway of the QUEEN and EMPRESS in the character of “Astraea Redux.” May that blessed sway continue! The true “Islands of the Blest.”

J. P. S.

THE LANCET.

LONDON: SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 1897.

1837. MEDICINE AND THE MEDICAL MAN. 1897.

To tell the story of the progress of medicine during HER MAJESTY'S splendid reign—a reign not only unprecedented in length but in scientific discovery and development of all sorts—would be manifestly impossible within the scope of the editorial statement of a weekly journal. Space will not allow us to enter into detail when a period of sixty years, no year of which has been barren of result, has to be covered. A mere list of the names of men whose life-work has added to the stores of our special knowledge could with difficulty be compressed into the scope of this article if the list were to be exhaustive and to include all whose work directly or indirectly has conduced to the advance of scientific medicine. For as medicine has been metamorphosed from an art into a science the taxes which she levies upon the sister sciences have grown heavier and heavier, until the present position is reached, where the surgeon's aptest assistant is applied chemico-physiological procedure of the most elaborate sort, and where the physician displays the single-heartedness of his studies by employing in his therapeutics an accurate knowledge of electrical phenomena. In the brief account of medical progress during the past sixty years which now follows we have attempted to call attention to the most important steps forward. And we are justly proud of being able to say that if anyone should desire to know more of particular circumstances in this grand record of advance he can consult our columns in the past. For THE LANCET was born fourteen years before HER GRACIOUS MAJESTY ascended the throne, and within its covers will be found the true and exhaustive history of medical progress during the reign.

We start our summary with a brief *résumé* of the advances in our knowledge of physiology and chemistry, for to the enormous strides that these sciences have taken we must attribute much of the success that attends medical practice of the present day. In diagnosis, in prophylaxis, and in therapy alike our methods are now based upon scientific research. But let no one look with anything but respect on the great men of the past whose labours were effected under a less favourable environment. In the "thirties" and "forties" there were giants in the land, and the work that they did has been of incalculable value. Advances in the ancillary sciences could not have been grafted with success upon an empirical scheme. It is because the old work was good and honest and thorough—it is because when true reasons for procedure were absent false reasons were never invented—that medical routine was in a healthy condition and ready to take advantage of all tribute brought to it from exoteric sources. We are sure that no one can read

the names of the heroes of medicine in the early Victorian days without feeling that a debt of gratitude and reverence is owing to them, for their technical knowledge, for their intuition, and for their honourable methods.

THE GROWTH OF PHYSIOLOGICAL AND BIOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE.

To give even a short account of the advances that have been made in physiology and in physiological chemistry during the past sixty years would require a volume. The doctrine of the correlation of forces and the doctrine of evolution have profoundly modified our conceptions of the nature of life and of the secondary causes which have led to origin and diversity of the forms of life by which we are surrounded. We can hardly place ourselves in the position occupied by workers before DARWIN'S revelations and HUXLEY'S magnificent support of them. For the relations of HUXLEY to DARWIN—with LISTER and PASTEUR the foremost scientific names of the Victorian era—are deeply interesting. Without HUXLEY'S powerful aid, valuable corroborative evidence, and telling exposition of the doctrines of evolution DARWIN'S views would certainly have been far more slowly accepted.

PROFESSOR HUXLEY.

The importance of the cell as the physiological unit common to all the tissues of the body has been fully established, though the estimation of the relative value of its component parts—cell-wall, protoplasm, and nucleus—has of late years undergone material modification, whilst each has been shown to possess a structure far more complex than was believed to exist by the originators of the cell theory, SCHLEIDEN and SCHWANN, or even by VIRCHOW, who twenty years later so ably supported the doctrine of "omnis cellula e cellula." The successive improvements made in the construction of the microscope have proved of immense service to physiology by enabling observers to comprehend the structure of the different organs of the body, and thus to gain some insight into the mechanism by which the various functions of secretion, sensation, and motion are effected. We are still only on the threshold of this inquiry and are