BRITISH AND AMERICAN SURGEONS :

PRESENTATION OF THE GREAT MACE TO THE
AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

THE keen observer of current medical thought cannot fail to have noticed many tokens of the growing intimacy between British and American surgery and those who practise it. The most significant event took place early this week. On Monday, Oct. 11th, the Great Mace, given by the consulting surgeons of the British Armies to the American College of Surgeons to commemorate their mutual work and good fellowship, was presented by a special deputation consisting of Sir Berkeley Moynihan, Sir William Taylor, of Dublin, and Mr. A. Carless. The first-named read the following letter from Sir Anthony Bowlby, President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, who had intended to be present but was prevented from so doing.

Letter from Sir Anthony Bowlby.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT,—The hospitality which I enjoyed at the meeting of your College in October, 1919, makes me regret all the more deeply that my duties in England prevent me from joining you again this year at Montreal.

The feelings of affectionate regard entertained by British surgeons have found expression in the creation of the "Great Mace," which has been designed in order to commemorate "our mutual work and good fellowship in the late war," and is a gift from the consulting surgeons of the British Armies to the American College of Surgeons. Much thought has been given to the various emblematic devices which decorate it, and we trust that it may be found worthy of acceptance and of a place in your College buildings at your annual meetings.

The Mace has always been the emblem of "authority," and, as the American College of Surgeons is now the chief surgical authority on your continent, we hope and believe that our gift is a suitable one.

The names of the 54 donors will satisfy you that all parts of the British Isles and of the Overseas Dominions are represented, and that surgeons who served in Italy, in Salonika, in Egypt, and in Palestine have joined with those whose work lay in France and Belgium and at home.

The representatives who have been appointed to convey the Mace to Montreal will assuredly convey to you also the hearty good wishes of all the donors for the continued prosperity of your College, and I can assure you that all of us are animated by the most ardent desire that the good fellowship of the workers in the Great War shall be continued through innumerable years of peace.

May I ask you to convey to all the Fellows of the College, and especially to my personal friends, my own most cordial good wishes, and may I also offer to you the hope that your presidential year will be one of great success in advancing the science and art of surgery.

Yours very truly,

ANTHONY A. BOWLBY.

Royal College of Surgeons of England, Lincoln's Inn-fields,
London, W.C. 2, July, 1920.

Sir Berkeley Moynihan's Address.

Sir BERKELEY MOYNIHAN, on presenting the Mace, said:—

Three centuries ago on this very day a little sailing vessel, leaving England far behind her, was struggling against adverse winds and heavy seas towards America. On board were 100 pilgrims fleeing from civil and religious tyranny to seek sanctuary and freedom in a new land. No voyage in history has been so fateful. Those who journeyed in that vessel, a chosen company on the horizon of your history, were the best of English stock. They helped to found here a small colony of people, grim and stoical in spirit, yet touched with idealism. Though all the great countries of the earth have since given of their best to build your nation, those few pilgrims have left their indelible stamp upon the culture, the institutions, and the laws of this land. Almost a century and a half ago that colony broke away from the mother country, with which it was long at war. But 100 years of peace between the two nations had been celebrated when in 1917 they stood together in arms. War is the Great Revealer. We learnt in that great testing time of our race that ties of blood, when they mean kinship in spirit and an equal surrender to the noblest impulse, are never to be broken. In the Great War America and Britain mingled their blood upon the same stricken field. The hope then grew strong in many hearts that a new understanding, born of comradeship in battle, fiercely tested in the furnace of affliction, and sealed in death, would redeem all ancient blunders, blot out the bitter

THE GREAT MACE PRESENTED TO THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS BY THE CONSULTING SURGEONS OF THE BRITISH ARMIES.

memories of wrong, and lead at last to a supreme and permanent reconciliation. For we seemed then to realise that deep down in the hearts, enthroned in the conscience of the two peoples there was the same full eager devotion to eternal principles, love of justice, joy in liberty, hatred of oppression; the same unselfish determination to strive for the redemption of mankind, and to establish anew the freedom of the world. On the fields of Flanders and of France as in the cabin of the *Mayflower*, humanity recovered its rights.

In the grave and anxious days of war, when we fought so long in fellowship, no associations were closer, no friendships more swift and intimate, no joint labours more fruitful than those of our profession. We then gained each for the other, not respect and sympathy alone, but true affection also. Every lover of his country, every lover of humanity must wish that the spiritual alliance then created shall endure to the end of time. In our desire to perpetuate the remembrance of those days of duty done together we, the consulting surgeons of the Armies of Britain, ask the College of Surgeons of America to accept this Mace. We pray that you may regard it as a symbol of our union in the harsh days of trial; as a pledge of our devotion to the same imperishable ideals; as a witness to our unfaltering and unchanging hope that the members of our profession in the two lands shall be joined in brotherhood for ever in the service of mankind.

The Donors of the Mace.

The following is a list of the consulting surgeons of the British Armies who gave the Great Mace to the American College of Surgeons:—

Sir Charles Ballance, K.C.M.G., C.B.; Sir Hamilton Ballance, K.B.E., C.B.; Sir Gilbert Barling, Bart., C.B.; Seymour Barling, C.M.G.; Sir Anthony Bowlby, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., D.S.M. (U.S.A.); Dr. H. A. Bruce; F. Burghard, C.B.; H. Burrows, C.B.E.; A. Carless, C.B.E.; Sir A. Chance, C.B.E.; C. C. Choyce, C.M.G., C.B.E.; Sir Kennedy Dalziel; R. Davies-Colley, C.M.G.; T. P. Dunhill, C.M.G.; Dr. J. M. Elder, C.M.G.; Sir Crisp English, K.C.M.G.; H. A. Fairbank, D.S.O.; C. H. S. Frankau, C.B.E., D.S.O.; Forbes Fraser, C.B.E.; Sir Peter Freyer, K.C.B.; A. Fullerton, C.B., C.M.G.; George Gask, C.M.G., D.S.O., D.S.M. (U.S.A.); Sir Henry Gray, K.B.E., C.B.; Sir Robert Jones, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.M. (U.S.A.); R. E. Kelly, C.B.; Sir Arbuthnot Lane, Bart., C.B.; Sir William Lister, K.C.M.G.; V. Warren Low, C.B.; Sir George Makins, G.C.M.G., C.B.; Sir Arthur Mayo-Robson, K.B.E., C.B., C.V.O.; A. B. Mitchell, O.B.E.; Sir Berkeley Moynihan, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.M. (U.S.A.); Sir Thomas Myles, C.B.; T. H. Openshaw, C.B., C.M.G.; Colonel A. Pilcher, C.B., D.S.O.; Owen Richards, C.M.G., D.S.O.; Sir Hugh Rigby, K.C.V.O.; Percy Sargent, C.B., D.S.O.; James Sherren, C.B.E.; Maynard Smith, C.B.; Thomas Sinclair, C.B.; Sir Harold Stiles, K.B.E.; James Swain, C.B., C.B.E.; Sir Charters Symonds, K.B.E., C.B.; Sir William Taylor, K.B.E.; Sir John Lynn-Thomas, K.B.E., C.B.; Alexis Thomson, C.M.G.; Sir William Thorburn, K.B.E., C.B.; A. H. Tubby, C.B., C.M.G.; H. Wade, C.M.G., D.S.O.; Sir Cuthbert Wallace, K.C.M.G., C.B.; Sir Charles Gordon Watson, K.B.E., C.M.G.; A. Webb-Johnson, C.B.E., D.S.O.; Sir W. de C. Wheeler.

Description of the Mace.

The Mace has been designed so as to tell in symbolic language of the close union between British and American surgery and of the ties which unite Great Britain to Canada and to the United States of America. It retains the traditional shape and proportions of the Civic Mace of the seventeenth century, and is of hand-wrought, chiselled and repousse silver gilt.

The *dedicatory inscription* engraved on the plate under the crown sets forth that it is a gift "from the consulting surgeons of the British Armies to the American College of Surgeons, in memory of mutual work and good fellowship in the Great War 1914-1918."

The *crown-shaped finial* is formed of six rich scroll buttresses upholding the "Sacred Flame of Science" issuing from a mortar of antique pattern, the model of which was recently found on the field of battle near Salonika. These buttresses spring from a cresting composed of alternating maple leaves and American eagles intertwined with the Serpents of Esculapius; while the position usually occupied by a band of jewels in a monarchal crown is filled with the words "The American College of Surgeons."

The *body or head* is divided into six panels by the Winged Caduceus, being an ornamental rendering of the badge of the United States Army Medical Corps. The panels set forth the following "Achievements at Arms" in delicate and finely detailed repousse work:—

- 1st. The full Blazon of the United States of America.
- 2nd. The Dominion of Canada.
- 3rd. The College of Surgeons of England.
- 4th. The Badge of the Royal Army Medical Corps.
- 5th. The Shields of Arms of John Hunter and Lord Lister.
- 6th. A cartouche bearing the words "Philip Syng Physick, 1768-1837, Father of American Surgery."

The lower portion of the head is decorated with a symbolic band of water indicating the ocean which both unites and separates America and the Mother Country. The latter is symbolised by the British lion brackets of highly chiselled work which support the head and terminate the upper part of the staff. The talons of the lion's feet grip the hammered decoration of the upper knob, which consists of a design of American and Canadian maple seed-pods and heart-shaped spaces. This hammered work is protected by boldly projecting, solid, jewel-like bosses of chiselled work.

The *staff* is decorated with a free design of the national floral emblems of the United Kingdom—the rose, the thistle, the

shamrock, and the leek. Intertwined among these are a number of ribbon scrolls, each one of which bears the name of one of the donors.

The *foot* bears, as decoration, the root form from which the above spring, and a series of six small shields which may be used for possible future arms or inscriptions. The extreme bottom knob is fluted with leaves of *Isatis tinctoria*.

The various parts are held together in the traditional manner by a rod of English oak, cut from a tree grown at Wytham, Berks. The extreme length is 3 ft. 11½ in., and the weight of silver is 140 oz. troy.

The Mace was designed and made by Omar Ramsden, who has also embodied some suggestions of the donors.

HUMAN EFFICIENCY IN THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

THE publications of the Industrial Fatigue Research Board are becoming more frequent as the Board settles into its stride. They are being grouped as they refer to this or that trade or industry under investigation. Three reports have recently been issued dealing with inquiries conducted in textile factories. The first¹ is a survey concerned with the relative importance of the human and mechanical factors in various branches of the cotton industry. The principle is accepted that, where large individual differences in production exist, the mechanical factor is by no means predominant, and that in such cases modification of the human conditions of employment may result in increased efficiency, prosperity, and comfort. And conversely that a very small mean variation in the output of individuals denotes a probable overwhelming influence of the mechanical factor. "A machine of predominant influence diminishes the expression of individual differences, in fact, there seems to be an inverse relationship between the influence of the human and mechanical factors. Yet individual differences will exist as long as human labour is necessary for industrial processes." Mr. S. Wyatt, author of the report, found that the human factor became steadily more important as the cotton passes from the early process of spinning to the final process of weaving. In the process of mule-spinning, for instance, "the part played by the operative is very small compared with the overwhelming influence of the machine, and the necessity for taking into consideration the existence of individual differences is proportionately reduced"; and in ring-spinning the "process is not conducive to the expression and development of individual differences in ability, but tends to reduce the human factor to comparative uniformity and insignificant proportions." On the other hand, the processes of winding and weaving were found to give opportunities to individual workers to express themselves. Differences in output were considerable, indicating the importance of human variability and skill and the need for longer apprenticeship. But, Mr. Wyatt remarks, "at the present time the duration of the period of apprenticeship seems to have a purely empirical basis and does not appear to be accurately adjusted to the conditions and requirements of the various industries." This report, which is of considerable interest, well written, and clearly expressed, acts as an introduction to later reports.

The Optimum Pace of Bobbin-winding.

The second report,² also written by Mr. Wyatt, is based upon an intensive inquiry into the process of bobbin-winding, which is the last process in a spinning-mill before the cotton yarn is passed on to the weaver. The process is one of those in which the human element had already been noted in the preliminary inquiry to be important. The process is described and analysed into 40 regular and five occasional operations, each of which were carefully timed. "The impression gained on observing the winders at work was that they were constantly working at a high pressure, and, although it is generally the case that the operative who appears to be working hardest actually produces the least output,

¹ Individual Differences in Output in the Cotton Industry. Textile Series No. 1. Industrial Fatigue Research Board. 1920.

² Some Observations on Bobbin-winding. Textile Series No. 2. Industrial Fatigue Research Board. 1920.