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Cardinal Comments.

Takes Issue with Dr. Osler on Saints and Science.

Plans to Write Sir William.

Calls attention to fact that Pasteur was a Catholic and put Trust in Saints.

When part of the speech of Sir William Osler at the dedicatory exercises of the new Phipps Psychiatric Clinic held last Wednesday at Johns Hopkins Hospital was read to Cardinal Gibbons yesterday, the prelate exclaimed: "I am shocked."

The statement of the eminent medical man, which has aroused much comment, was the following:

Primitive views will prevail everywhere of man's relation to the world and to the uncharted region about him. So recent is the control of the forces of nature that even in the most civilized countries man has not yet adjusted himself to the new conditions, and stands, only half awake, rubbing his eyes outside of Eden. Still in the thaumaturgic state of our mental development, 99 per cent of our fellow-creatures, when in trouble, sorrow or sickness, trust to charms, incantations and to the saints. Many a shrine has more followers than Pasteur; many a saint more believers than Lister. Less than twenty years has passed since the last witch was burned in the British Isles!

Mentally the race is still in leading strings, and it has only been in the last brief epoch of its history that Aesop and Lewis Carroll have spun yarns for its delight, and Lucien and Voltaire have chastised its follies. In the childhood of the world we cannot expect people yet to put away childish things. These, Mr. President, are some of the hopes which fill our hearts as we think of the future of this new department.

Surprise to the Prelate.

The Cardinal said that the statement had been called to his attention hurriedly, but that until yesterday he had not given it thought. It was evident that the stand of Dr Osler was a complete surprise to the Cardinal.

"I find that scientists in any line sometimes make statements such as that of Dr. Osler," said the Cardinal, "and only a short time ago I had to defend some truths that Thomas A. Edison attacked. The great trouble with these scientific specialists is that they cannot imagine how anyone can disagree with them. They think their statements should go unchallenged, but this one of Dr Osler shall not, and I shall write to him asking him to retract it."

"I would like to call the attention of Dr. Osler to the fact that Pasteur was a devoted Catholic and put his trust in the saints. He said that as his knowledge of medicine increased his faith grew likewise. He was proud

of the fact that he was a member of the Catholic Church, and I am sure he worshipped at many shrines."

"Doctrine Based on Theory."

"What do the things that Dr. Osler preaches stand for, anyhow? Fifty years hence all his teachings may be overthrown by new discoveries. His whole doctrine is based on theory. Fifty years ago the scientists of that day imagined they knew all there was to be known of medicine, yet today their conclusions are overthrown by later discoveries.

"The statements attributed to Dr. Osler are an attack on Christianity. I am exceedingly surprised that he should make such attacks in this age. The Catholic Church is not founded on theory, and whereas the whole world is informed of its doctrines, the conclusions of Dr. Osler are known to comparatively few. The world at present is alarmed by the condition of the head of the Church, and changes in his health are of great interest - more, perhaps, than that of any scientist whom we now know."

In other quarters the conclusions of the eminent visitor have aroused dissatisfaction, and it is likely that he will be attacked from several pulpits tomorrow.