THE FORMAL OPENING OF THE LABORATORY OF THE ROCKEFELLER INSTITUTE
FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH.

A SKETCH OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ROCKEFELLER INSTITUTE FOR
MEDICAL RESEARCH.

Five years ago there were in France, Germany, England, Russia and Japan well-
equipped and endowed institutions for research in medicine. In this country not
one existed. For pure and applied science, all our higher institutions of learning had
their laboratories, their corps of instructors and fellowships, and both opportunity and
encouragement were given to students to take up original work. But how great the
contrast when we turn to medicine, whose problems are related not only to the health
but even the life of the race. The poverty of the resources of the medical institutions
was truly pitiful. Their laboratories were
for the instruction of students and pos-
sessed but little equipment beyond what
was necessary for this end.

It was at this time that a group of five
men met in the Arlington Hotel at Wash-
ington just five years ago last week, at the
request of the founder of this institute, to
consider the question of the establishment
of an institution to promote research in
medicine. There could be but one opinion,
and, at the conference only one was ex-
pressed, viz., That the most urgent need
existed and that the time was ripe for the
foundation of such an institution in this
country.

† May 11, 1906.