

days. The house decays about as fast as its builder, and becomes racked with the wind and storms which have beaten upon it until the cracks open, the shingles blow off, and the house grows leaky and cold. So is the man in his old age. He has become racked with the storms and hardships of life; his heat goes out, the fire-place decays, his food digests poorly, and gives but little nourishment or heat to warm the body and expand the lungs. For the inward heat rarifies the air in the lungs, and causes them to expand, by lightening the air within, and the heft of the surrounding atmosphere, being higher charged with oxygen or water, puts out the fire faster than dry, cold air; and as the heat decays inward, the weight of the air crowds heavily on the lungs, and causes great difficulty in breathing; the lungs labor like the wheel of a mill in back water, the fountain almost level with the stream, until the heat in the lungs becomes insufficient to expand them any longer; the heft of the air comes to an equilibrium of heft inside, and all motion ceases. The water in the air has put out the fire. This is the cause why in those people who have but little fire in the body, and such a heft of damp air outside, the heat is so soon extinguished inside, like a person falling into the water; the cause of death is, that the water has put out the fire; and when the air is full of water, it puts out the fire in the same proportion. Thus I think I have given a satisfactory cause of death upon natural principles. The cause and effect are in themselves.

In this case, I would ask the Christian, of every denomination, what God here either gave or took away life? Was there any God in the case abstract from the cause here given? Or what soul or spirit went out at death except the heat, or nature, which caused life and breath?

HOW DOCTORS SHORTEN THE LIVES OF THEIR PATIENTS.

That the practice of the regular doctors, as they are termed, shortens the lives of their patients, is a truth of which I have not the shadow of a doubt, and the cause, to me, is obvious. The cold poisons which they administer have the effect of chilling the stomach and killing the digestive organs; so that the food does not raise more than half