

should do it gladly, rendering his services cheerfully and delicately to those who must not pay; and so, too, shall he bear his part as a citizen, says the Code, and lend his services to the public good in proper matters for his concern. These are the doctor's duties. It were cant and coarseness to call them charities. For these, too, has he ample opportunities—more than most men—in his daily life, among rich and poor and high and low, not in doing and giving only, but in sympathizing with distress, in bearing with human weaknesses, in conquering himself.

The doctor has no right to lower his profession in the eyes of the world, and so injure its usefulness. He who is careful in his business affairs, and charges those who are able to pay and should pay the full measure for his services, and sees to it that they are paid for not by suits, which are abominations, but by educating his people to pay, may gain the name of closeness, but really he is doing far more to raise his profession in the world's respect than the slipshod fellow who lets his bills go by from laziness, from lack of method, or from fear of giving offence. Not good-hearted, but rather chicken-hearted is he. We cannot alter the laws which make money or labour the unit of values. See how vain it is when the poor wretch for whom you have done your best saves from his miserable earnings a fee to pay not you, but another, whose skill must be better, for it costs to get it. We cannot change human nature, for witness the seemingly astonishing abuse and detraction which is given in return for unpaid services by way of asserting independence, and see how low is our profession held by public officers, when they see how the unpaid positions of doctors in the public service are eagerly sought for by members of the profession. "What do I care for doctors," said an astute ruler, "when I can buy them for a dollar a head?" A dear price, we are sad to think, it would be to pay for some.

And if the doctor—not through carelessness or ignoble fear of offence, but instigated by higher motives of supposed charity—do not demand his dues, grossly is he mistaken in the amount of good he does. We will not stop to consider the harm that is done by indiscriminate free medicine in destroying the independence—pauperizing the souls—of those who accept it; that is a well-worn theme; but point we for a moment to the valuelessness of free medicine. Whatever the amount of skill that is shown, no matter what care is given, it is a rule that free medicine loses in its effect. If there be some who in the nature of things do not pay for our services, it is their misfortune. The poor do not recover like the rich, and one reason is that among the comforts they are

denied is that of paying the doctor. Our most brilliant successes are certainly not among those who by courtesy are exempt from our fees; nay, it is even a misfortune, so far as health is concerned, for this patient to be joined to us by family ties, and thus be forced to escape our bills. Twenty years did the obstinate Fatima withstand the faith of her husband, Mahomet, though millions who pay for his ministrations found comfort in his prayers.

What, then, is the end of this? Plainly that we shall not make a charity of our business or business of our charity, no less for the good of our patients than of our pockets. Let us not deprive them of a single chance for their welfare when we can help it, and keep steadily in view that not by drug alone, but by due care is health regained.

The most important therapeutical law which has been enunciated since quinine came in was made by Mr. Tuke, when he declared that the imagination and the unseen forces "should be yoked to the car of Phœbus Apollo," and made to do their part in hauling that life-machine out of the ruts in which it may have fallen. As great, too, is the force of money in view of the prospect of pay. It quickens the faith in him that gives it, unlocks stores of wisdom in him that receives. Would that these words could reach a very important party in our action. To him whom we can address, however do we say it—put money in thy purse when you can, my brother, that the world may respect us and that our ministrations may not fail.—*Louisville News.*

APPOINTMENTS.

B. L. Bradley, of the village of West Flatboro', Esq., M.D., to be an Associate Coroner in and for the County of Wentworth.

Dr. John Harley has been appointed physician to St. Thomas Hospital, in the room of the late Dr. Murchison.

Charles A. Jones, of the village of Mount Forest, Esq., M.D., to be an Associate Coroner in and for the County of Wellington.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

At Penetanguishene, on September 17th, the wife of Dr. P. H. Spohn, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

At Bloomfield, on July 30th, A. C. Bowerman, M.B. to Ida E. Bedell.

DEATHS.

At Clarksburg, on Sept. 17th, Carrie A., wife of Dr. R. H. Hunt.

At Toronto, on Sept. 17th, Dr. Blume, late of New York city, aged 42 years.