

divinity are now figuring widely in the papers in connection with their favorite remedies, and knowing what these remedies are, the only inference that can possibly be drawn is that the ecclesiastical medicine-taker is a knave, and is in the pay of the quack to publish as personal experiences of his own what we know to be impossible; or a fool and a hypochondriac who has become morbid with endless auto-inspection and whose opinion is therefore of no value whatever.

HOSPITAL ABUSES.

Too much encouragement cannot be given to the hospitals, and their increased efficiency is a matter of satisfaction to all practitioners. The present is, however, a time of transition, and there are a number of grave abuses in this period of this adjustment which will disappear later on, we hope. Originally the hospital was a charitable institution designed for the homeless poor. The advantages of hospital treatment have become so marked of late years, however, that many prefer going to the hospital to being treated at home. They do not go to the hospital because it is a charitable institution for economical reasons, but because of the improved conditions to be gained there. In this way the general practitioner loses a very considerable amount of practice. It is to be hoped that in time there will be little but hospital practice, and that the sick of a community will be cared for entirely in such institutions, where each physician will treat his own cases either independent of the institution or in connection with it. The public hospitals should not be under the general surveillance of a few fortunate physicians, who, while they do not receive any direct remuneration from the hospital itself, still use their connection with it to further their own advantages. Properly speaking,

the hospital should not be set aside for a clique of select professional men to fatten upon, but be the joint possession of all members of the profession.

THE DOCTOR IN POLITICS.

With our congratulations to our confreres who have been successful in the recent elections, and our condolences to the goodly number who suffered defeat upon the same occasion, we feel driven to remark upon the doctor's place in politics. We are aware that the medical man usually remains as far as possible non-partizan, on account of his practice, and hence perhaps has arisen almost an indifference to politics altogether upon the point of the medical man. But it was not from his standpoint that we wished to look so much as from that of the public. Would it not be a great advantage for the general public if the medical profession had a larger representation in parliament than it has. At present our governing bodies are recruited almost entirely from the legal profession, who, I think it is pretty well admitted, use their high responsibility wholly for the purpose of strengthening their own position or that of their class. The very nature of the physician's profession makes of him something of a humanitarian, and a few more such and a few less of the unscrupulous schemers who at present hold place would be better for the country. So many questions of public health and the common good can best be settled by the physician.

MEN OF ONE IDEA.

We have often been struck by the one-sidedness of the medical men, and from those who are not members of the profession one so often hears the remark that So-and-so may be a very brilliant physician but that he is cer-