

departure, should be welcomed as a brother, treated as such in any country, and registered upon payment of the usual fee." And again, "Medicine is the only world-wide profession, following everywhere the same methods, actuated by the same ambitions, and pursuing the same ends. This homogeneity, its most characteristic feature, is not shared by the law, and not by the church, certainly not in the same degree. While in antiquity the law rivals medicine, there is not in it that extraordinary solidarity which makes the physician at home in any country, in any place where two or three sons of men are gathered together. Similar in its high aims and in the devotion of its officers, the Christian Church, widespread as it is, and saturated with the humanitarian instincts of its Founder, yet lacks that catholicity—*urbi et orbi*—which enables the physician to practise the same art amid the same surroundings in every country of the earth. There is a unity, too, in its aims—the prevention of diseases by discovering their causes and the cure and relief of sickness and suffering. In a little more than a century, a united profession, working in many lands, has done more for the race than has ever been accomplished by any body of men before."

In the *British Medical Journal* of November 21st last, there was published an article by Prof. C. Jacobs, of the University of Brussels, in which in few, yet pregnant sentences, he drew a picture of the hideous sufferings into which the cruelty of Germany had plunged our Belgian confreres in medicine and pharmacy. At least one-fifth of these two professions had been reduced to abject poverty. "Of these," says Professor Jacobs, "many of them, victims of a barbarian foe, are homeless, deprived of their laboratories, instruments, and their medical stores. What will become of those that still remain of our people, threatened as they are by the grim havoc of war and by contagious diseases, its constant followers? I have witnessed such misery amongst them. Some have had to work as navvies in order to have a few pence in their pockets; others have told me that they have not seen bread for a fortnight, but had lived exclusively on potatoes. Others had a meagre bunch of straw laid on the bare ground as a bedstead; the only pair of boots owned by one of them was falling to pieces in tatters. Men I have seen were dressed in torn garments and their children were in rags. One of my colleagues had to live on wayside herbs for three days and three nights and his wife shared his fate. A professor of a university, bereft of everything, was, when I saw him, in dire want of a bed, and another of equal academic standard was wand-