

examine the whole eruption, paying particular attention to the characteristics of the fully-developed vesicles; (3) because you have one case of smallpox in a house, do not say that a vesicular eruption on another in the same house is the same disease, until certain, for smallpox and chickenpox may run concurrently; (4) do not forget that in smallpox, in vaccinated subjects, the disease is so mild that as soon as the eruption has disappeared, the patient feels well; (5) do not ascribe mild cases to mere digestive disturbances; (6) do not imagine that only general practitioners make mistakes in diagnosis, for even medical superintendents of smallpox hospitals and the cleverest of experts are often puzzled.

Those who say the present epidemic is not smallpox, generally base their opinions on the fact that there is too little pitting, and too few deaths to be quite convincing.

In closing I would just quote to them Osler, who asserts, "Pitting is more common after chickenpox than after varioloid," and Sydenham, who says, "Discrete smallpox rarely pits, and seldom kills." Curschmann says: "From varioloid alone healthy adults hardly ever die."

THE ETHICS OF THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.*

BY H. P. ELLIOT, M.D., MORDEN.

Mr. President and Gentlemen,—Among the sailors there are some things one is not supposed to do until he has travelled once round the globe, or doubled the Horn twice. Likewise, I think a medical man should not read a paper before a society till he has been ten years in practice, or has at least proved himself a shining light in some particular branch of the medical science, which I cannot pretend to have done. Still, the mandate has gone forth from our worthy President, and I must comply, to the best of my ability, with a paper on the "Ethics of the Medical Profession." It is not without some trepidation that I stand here, feeling as I do that at least half the members are my seniors both in age and medical experience. Before entering on the subject itself, we may spend a few moments with the history of ethics.

The true translation of the Greek word *ἦθος* (ethos) is custom, usage, or character. Ethics, generally speaking, is connected with ontology, or theology, with universal good inclu-

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