

years ago the writer heard lodge practice denounced in scathing terms by a number of doctors, and so unanimous were the opinions against it, that one expected to see a resolution passed pronouncing it "infamous and disgraceful," and therefore amenable to discipline, but suddenly the discussion was quietly dropped. It was whispered about the room that the President of the Association, occupying the chair—a popular and well-to-do doctor of a progressive city—was a "dyed in the wool" lodge doctor, gathering in as many lodges as his genial manner could command. The lodge doctor, as a rule, receives a dollar per year per member for attendance and medicine. Four-fifths of them will admit that this does not pay directly. They admit that they do this work "for the sake of the practice it leads to." They subscribe to a tariff of fees fixing the general practitioner's charge for a single visit—without medicine—at \$2.00, and are glad to avail themselves of this tariff and the assistance of their fellow practitioners when they go into court to sue a stubborn and ungrateful patient; but they will attend and supply medicine for a mere pittance in order to get new patients, or, in other words, to have an opportunity to steal some patients from the family physician. Some of them try to win the family practice by a display of excessive zeal in their attendance on the lodge members. Others plead for charity—confidentially telling the mistress of the house that lodge practice does not pay unless the family practice goes with it, and that they really will be compelled to give up the lodge if the wives and families do not employ them. Others, again, adopt a bolder tone and claim the family practice as a right. Such being some of the methods adopted by the average lodge doctor, why should they not be treated as they deserve?

And now for the remedy. You suggest the drawing up of "some code which will be equitable to the man doing society work and the man who will not; and hint that the scheme may be Utopian. I should say that it is Utopian. You might as well attempt to devise some scheme which will enable sneak thieves and pickpockets to ply their trade without protest from honest men.

The laity have a perfect right to make contracts with cheap doctors, and will continue to do so as long as they can find them. So will they try household remedies, prescribing druggists, faith cures, Christian Scientists, and "Dodd's Pills," and after they have tried any or all of them they should be, and are, at liberty to send for their regular medical attendant.

Whenever one of my regular patients sends for me I invariably go and ask no questions. Whether the patient has been using pink pills, the prescribing druggist, or the lodge doctor, it is all the same to me; I