

gain that we have learned that nothing is valuable simply because it is old, or true because our fathers said it. The Homeric heroes boasted themselves as being greater than their fathers—we should be ashamed if we are not greater than ours. We have had all the opportunities they had, and more; all the examples they possessed and theirs in addition.

But while our law is thus in a state of flux, it must not be forgotten that immensely the greater portion of it is in principle the same as it has been for centuries. While in medicine, in not one case out of twenty can a physician gain any practical advantage by consulting an authority twenty years old, in law there is not one case in twenty in which authorities much more than twenty years old will or may not be—if not conclusive, at least of advantage. A physician who has been in practice twenty years will have twenty times as much to unlearn as his brother of the same age in the legal profession—the former generally must

“Be not the first by whom the new are tried,
Nor yet the last to lay the old aside”;

but with the latter “*novum et ad hanc diem non auditum*” is anathema as it was to Cicero, one of the greatest of his tribe; and his rule must be “What is new is seldom true; what is true is seldom new.” *Immer etwas Neues, selten etwas Gutes.*

With their varying functions and in their different spheres, the two professions of law and medicine have the same object in view—the good of the people—incidentally, of course, the good of the practitioners themselves. Lawyers, I know, are often charged—as though that were, if not a crime, at least a sin—with practising for money: physicians with insisting upon as great remuneration as possible for their services. We have good authority for the doctrine, “The laborer is worthy of his hire.” And while I do not deny that both doctor and lawyer work for and expect to receive money, I have not found as yet any branch of trade, any business or profession which is different in that regard. The farmer does not carry on his farm just because he will thereby increase the wealth of his country; the mechanic is not wholly altruistic; the merchant will shut up shop if he cannot get paid; the valuable services of the press are not uncommonly billed at twenty cents per line, and when the child of a clergyman was asked if his father was going to accept a call to another church at a larger salary, he said, “Well, pa is still praying for guidance, but ma is busy packing.” “The chieftain to the Highlands bound.” who cried