

your bills in a business-like way, but never bemean your vocation by refusing a call to the humblest hovel. If there be a selfish one hearing me, let him remember that the least promising persons are often the best pay and hold up for his encouragement the recent case of a western doctor who was left a fortune for attending an afflicted widow without expectation of recompense.

Further, you are now members of the regular medical profession. That word regular separates you from the amateur, the volunteer, the visionary and the experimenter. It means that you make medicine a life study, and bring the best powers of the mind to master it; that having searched the literature of the past, and examined the labours of your predecessors, you accept no dogma such as *similia similibus*, nor *contraria contrariis curantur*. You are neither allopaths nor homœopaths, nor antipaths, but scientific, medical men. In every calling in life it is those who consecrate their lives to their work who gain the confidence of the community in which they live. Such are the regulars to whom, in a great crisis, the people look for help, though when the trouble is trivial the volunteer and the irregular may have a following.

How anxiously did the families besieged in Lucknow long to be rescued, and, when the pibroch of the Highlanders was heard, how welcome was the sound of that slogan. The prisoners took fresh courage; they knew the British regulars were marching to their relief.

Because the laity waste time and money on quackery some fear there is not confidence in scientific medicine. But, gentlemen, the reverse is the case. Deep down in the hearts of the people there is a growing faith in the ability of the regular doctor to combat disease more successfully than anyone else. For slight ailments they may trust to the amateur; from imaginary ones the impostor reaps his richest profits; but when death stares them in the face you will be summoned to avert disaster. Fret not yourselves because of evil-doers. Quackery has always had its votaries, and will likely linger till the millenium's dawn, yet it does not endanger us as of old. It flaunts the more openly in our day, because the advance of science is ousting it, rendering the secrecy of nostrums an impossibility. Many modern quack remedies are, therefore, harmless and useful for some things, but betray the cloven hoof in being advocated as cure-alls. Invitations to take a pill beset us on every rock and barn from ocean to ocean, but our grandfathers had a larger supply of quack remedies, and with more alluring, alliterative titles. What fascination is there in certain little liver pills compared with Lucas' pure drops of life. Even in the legitimate (sic) practice of early times quackery was rampant, for the scientific habit of accurate observation was then unborn, and culture meant philosophic speculation. Knowledge being meagre, a pretence was made to all knowledge. The human race comes naturally by its aptitude to fall an easy prey to quackery, and, indeed, has grown to like being humbugged. The seed has multiplied since Mother Eve swallowed the nostrum of the smooth-