

almost as far as we can trace the history of man, every century contributing some fact, some great thought which has helped to develop and strengthen the profession into its present vast and magnificent proportions.

When we consider that the corner-stone of our profession, the nucleus around which everything crystallizes, is the study of life, its development and growth and influence, we can see how it must be linked with every science and with every line of investigation in which life and the influence of life is felt. Man has reached the highest point of development yet obtained in the grand scheme of creation, which is every day unfolding more and more its immensity and grandeur, its wisdom and beauty and perfection. Standing upon the highest pinnacle of creative power, man is still an animal linked with animal life; that life which, in the far distant ages, had its organized beginning, so far as human research can trace, in the first protoplasmic cell, and which has developed through the course of time into higher and more complex forms, until it has reached the highest type and most perfect development in man—a development so perfect that a new and immortal life can flow into it, become a part of it, and in time eliminate from it the inherited traits of the brute creation. Man thus through his double life, the mortal and the immortal, the animal and the spiritual, the soul influencing and, if it may be, controlling the animal and directing all its energies into higher and purer channels, is the monarch of the world, the avenue through which God seeks to accomplish the highest work of creation, the point toward which all life tends, and the power and intelligence with which He seeks to utilize it in His great scheme of progress and endless development.

The study of life in all its forms, its influence for good or evil upon the human being, is the study and work of our profession.

That man poorly comprehends the capabilities and the possibilities of our profession who restricts his inquiries to a single channel, or is chained to the wheels of a single dogma. Wherever there is life, the study of its infinite diversity and its innumerable forms and changes, opens new fields of investigation and new lines

of thought through which many of the mysteries of health and disease are made plain and the roots of the great social evils which have penetrated deeply into natural and individual life fully exposed.

The study of germ life, both animal and vegetable, in its infinite varieties, has, within the past few years, opened a vast field of research which has yielded; and will continue to yield, the richest results, the fruits of which we are only commencing to gather. The secrets of atmospheric influences and electric forces are only just beginning to be disclosed, but they are opening with such startling richness and vastness as to almost stagger the intellect with the possibilities of the future. With the magnificent results of investigations which are every day disclosing new facts, unlocking old mysteries, adding immensely to the general sum of our knowledge and usefulness, is it wise, with the grand and almost illimitable field opening before us, to confine our researches to a single dogma, as though in this, and this alone, was to be found that elixir of life which would regenerate and heal the human race? There are so many facts in science which appeal to the intelligence of every reasoning man, so many avenues of thought open and constantly opening as the darkness which hid them from sight rolls away before the light of science, that there must be room for all to work without jealousy or discord, each bringing his quota of knowledge to be tried in the furnace of practical experience and each recognizing the other as a fellow worker in the ranks of a great profession. We cannot check the progress of truth or force its reception. The mind will some day, as light gradually dawns upon it, be wide open to receive it and incorporate it with its own life and work. Intolerance, exclusiveness, or angry discussion will neither help or retard. All that we can do is to live earnest, conscientious and honest lives, ever striving to do good and intelligent work in that great field of labor where there is room for all.—*N. Y. Med. Times.*

The first physicians by debauch were made;
Excess began, and sloth sustains the trade;
Better to hunt in fields for health unbought,
Than see the doctor for a nauseous draught.

DRYDEN.