

member of the profession, whose circumstances are affluent, request attendance, and an honorarium be offered, it need not be declined; for no pecuniary obligation ought to be imposed which the party receiving it would not wish to incur.

Article III.—Of the duties of Physicians as respects vicarious offices.

1. When a member of the profession shall officiate for another he shall receive regular fees for such attendance, subject to any arrangement which may exist between them.

Article IV.—Of the duties of Physicians in regard to consultations.

1. A regular medical education furnishes the only presumptive evidence of professional abilities and acquirements, and ought to be the only acknowledged right of an individual to the exercise and honors of his profession. Nevertheless, as in consultations the good of the patient is the sole object in view, and this is often dependent on personal confidence, no intelligent regular practitioner who has a license to practice from some medical board of known and acknowledged respectability, recognized by this Association, and who is in good moral and professional standing in the place in which he resides, should be fastidiously excluded from fellowship, or his aid refused in consultation, when it is requested by the patient. But no one can be considered as a regular practitioner or a fit associate in consultation whose practice is based upon an exclusive dogma, to the rejection of the accumulated experience of the profession, and of the aids actually furnished by anatomy, physiology, pathology, and organic chemistry. No member or members of this Association shall be permitted to meet in consultation or take charge of any case conjointly with anyone who publicly announces himself as an Allopath, a Homoepath, an Eclectic, an Electro-Therapeutist, Physico-Medicalist, or by any such distinctive title which would limit him to a particular line of treatment, to the exclusion of all others.

2. In consultations no rivalry or jealousy should be indulged; candor,

probity, and all due respect, should be exercised towards the physician having charge of his case.

3. In consultations the attending physician should be the first to propose the necessary questions to the sick; after which the consulting physician should have the opportunity to make further enquiries of the patient as may be necessary to satisfy him of the true character of the case. Both physicians should then retire to a private place for deliberation; and the one first in attendance should communicate the directions agreed upon to the patient or to his friend, as well as any opinion which it may be thought proper to express. But no statement or discussion of it should take place before the patient or his friends, except in the presence of all the faculty attending, and by their common consent; and no opinion or prognostications should be delivered which are not the result of previous deliberation and concurrence.

4. In consultations the physician in attendance should deliver his opinion first: and when there are several consulting, they should deliver their opinions in the order in which they have been called in. No decision, however, should restrain the attending physician from making such variations in the mode of treatment as any subsequent unexpected change in the character of the case may demand. But such variation, and the reason for it, ought to be carefully detailed at the next meeting for consultation. The same privilege also belongs to the consulting physician if he is sent for in an emergency when the regular attendant is out of the way, and similar explanations must be made by him at the next consultation.

5. The utmost punctuality should be observed in the visits of physicians when they are to hold consultation together, and this is generally practicable, for society has been considerate enough to allow the plea of a professional engagement to take precedence of all others, and to be an ample reason for the relinquishment of any present occupation. But as professional engagements may sometimes interfere, and delay one of the parties, the physician who first arrives