

she can pay in the coin of the realm or not, is more than ready to lavish her good-will, extoll the physician's kindness and dwell upon his skill.

There is no one of experience but can number among his most remunerative patrons one or more who have come under his care through such humble means.

Of the scientific side of the question much might be said. In the heat and burden of the day, the rush of life and the competition of the times, too little opportunity is given for the careful study and observations of those conditions with which we are in common contact. Increasing familiarity and the drudgery of practice too often appear to dull the senses as to the scientific truths which every one of us might cull from daily experience, and thus much that is worthy and much that would be helpful to ourselves and to the world is lost through slothfulness, indifference or haste. The apparently trifling observations of Oliver Wendell Holmes and Semmelweiss, regarding the connection between uncleanness and puerperal morbidity led to further advancement and made possible the wonderful achievements in obstetrics and surgery of the present day.

The maintenance of health of the pregnant woman is of the greatest importance, and she should be protected from the multitude of dangers which inevitably threaten her condition, and of which she is for the most part ignorant. In first pregnancies especially, the woman is uninformed by experience what to expect or what to do under the new and changed conditions. Many girls enter the married state in almost total ignorance of the sexual relations, and the advent of pregnancy is to them an unexpected and unexplained mystery. What can such a woman know of the dangers which may threaten from indiscretions in diet, from inadequate bodily protection, from excessive or unwonted exercise, or from the thousand and one daily indulgences and habits which she has hitherto practised without thought or evil consequence? And is it not eminently within the province and duty of the physician to guide her in the manner of living, to instruct regarding personal hygiene, to alleviate as far as possible the annoyances and minor ailments to which she is liable, and to direct her in the matter of even the smallest detail preparatory to the final event—labor?

Should she not also be warned that, while indiscretions, either from ignorance or wilfulness, may not perhaps seriously affect her own physical health, they may later become manifested in her child?

How many times want of forethought leads to abortion or