

being in the way of cattle. Thus the chief of a tribe paid with a farm, and the son of a family with a large ox, and the famous doctors of the day were consequently owners of great numbers of animals. In China, affairs were so favorable for the physicians that the government issued an official notice to the people that, as physicians were in the habit of refusing to see patients before one p.m., and many were accustomed to sit up very late smoking opium and drinking, they should only receive one half their fee if they did not come at once when needed. In Japan, unfortunately, a prophet advised people to refrain from paying physicians well, lest they should neglect their professional duties, and the custom is to pay according to the success of the treatment. And yet Japan is not the most advanced medical nation in the world!

In spite of the theurgic element in medicine the position universally accorded the physician amongst these peoples was one of high respect. He in turn must observe certain forms of conduct, and we find in Indian writings the following qualities set forth for a doctor to possess: "Absence of passion, chastity, temperance, amiability, veracity, generosity, consideration for the sick, earnestness, a desire for knowledge, freedom from boasting, secrecy, and above all reflection and independence of thought." A goodly list and one not diminished in practical value because of its age. In seeking in the literature mention of the opinion held in regard to the position of the physician, no less a source than the Old Testament need be consulted, wherein we find the following noble sentiment: "Honor a physician! The skill of the physician shall lift up his head, and in the sight of great men he shall be in admiration. When thou feelest sick call upon God, and bring the physician, for a prudent man scorneth not the remedies of the earth."