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THE ADDRESS ON MEDICAL EDUCATION BY THE
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Our age above all others is characterized by the rapidity, number, and thoroughness of the changes that are passing over its entire civilization. In these, every branch of education, every department of investigation has shared. Within the last quarter of a century, and more especially within the last decade, so great and so radical have been the changes in ways of thinking and modes of procedure in consequence, that it may be said without the least exaggeration that the science and the art of medicine are now being *revolutionized*. Corresponding destructive and contemporaneous constructive processes are going on in the literature and science of the profession. If we were to attempt to express in a word the meaning of all this, we would say that medicine is being recognized as a branch of that widest of the natural sciences—biology. Whatever the final issue of the investigations on micro-organisms, so far as the actual direct effect on medicine, we believe that the highest good to this department of human thought and activity will be the clear recognition, by even the mass of practitioners, that scientific medicine is none other than the consideration of the great laws of living things in general, viewed in the light of deviations from what we call a normal condition; but which, from another point of view, are perfectly natural *under the circumstances*. It is the business of the physician primarily to understand the normal, the deviations from it, and the circumstances under which they