

John J. Abel, late of the University of Michigan ; Physiology, Wm. H. Howell. The school is open alike to both sexes.—*Maryland Medical Journal*.

DOCTORS, PREACHERS AND RELIGION.—It is not an uncommon thing to hear statements to the effect that the medical profession, as a whole, is un-Christian. Such an assertion is worthy of a serious reply, and that reply is of necessity in the nature of a refutation. The practice of medicine tends to develop in all men of any intellectuality whatever, a realizing sense of the limitations of human power and skill, the fallibility of human judgment and the mutability of all things finite. Over and above these facts the sincere searcher for truth recognizes the supreme power of God.

Growing out of this knowledge there is, in most men of experience, developed a reverent spirit which acknowledges with sincerity the ever-present guidance and control of the Divinity.

Such belief, however, does not necessarily impose upon the man any agreement with or submission to non-essential statements of belief that are compiled largely by men whose education, life and

experiences are wholly different from his own. And so, of course, many physicians frankly disown or disavow the lines of belief laid down for them by mere preachers, being fully persuaded that conscientious adherence to the great truths that constitute the essential element of Christianity renders unnecessary the non-essential and often utterly unwarranted addenda which the preachers have pinned on to our great system of belief. The physician is often painfully aware that the constituted church authorities are both incapable intellectually, and unfit morally to formulate rules for the guidance of other lives.

Much of the lack of confidence which physicians have in preachers, comes from the fact that preachers are, as a rule, not educated in the simplest matters concerning the physical being of man and of the whole natural world. Hence they are continually making the most absurd and irrational arguments, based perhaps on the "science" that is found in newspapers, and which too often constitutes the sole basis of their scientific education. Hence, too, they are continually becoming the victims of the most shameful and ignorant charla-

[OVER.]

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