

science of medicine is modest and of a retiring disposition. It likes to do its work in quiet corners. It makes simple announcements of the results of its labors. Not so with the frequenters and hangers-on of congresses. What would hopelessly disturb pure science, is the very life-blood and delight of pseudo-science. The former despises what the latter revels in. Every congress thus far has suffered from the polyglot clamor of those who go to blow their own trumpets, those who are mere medical politicians, wire-pullers, open advertisers, brazen-faced priority-claimers, and a host of people who have their little axes to grind. True merit too often stays at home.
 But the consultation-hunters, the claim-everything agents, the notoriety-promoters, the enterprising hob-nobbers, the 'strictly-business' doctors, and those little fellows who so dearly love to rub up against the big fellows—those and others like them are always out in full force."

A FUNNY HEALTH OFFICER.—The Michigan State Board of Health recently took Health Officer Davis, of Close Village, to task for failing to send in his weekly reports. His reply was unique. He says: "There has not been enough sickness here in the last two or three years to do much good. The physicians find time to go to Milwaukee on excursions, serve as jurors in Justice courts, sit around on drygoods boxes, and beg tobacco, chew gum, and swap lies. A few sporadic cases of measles have existed, but they were treated mostly by old women, and no deaths occurred. There was an undertaker in the village, but he is now in the State prison. It is hoped and expected that when green truck gets around, melons plenty, and cucumbers in abundance, that something may revive business. If it does I will let you know."—*Medical Record*.

ARSENIC IN WALL-PAPERS.—The *British Medical Journal* reports a simple and easily applied test of arsenic in wall-papers, devised by F. F. Grensted, as follows: Turn down an ordinary gas jet to a point until the flame is wholly blue. When this has been done, a strip of the paper suspected to contain arsenic is cut one-sixteenth of an inch wide and an inch or two long.