

usually the most potent therapeutic agents. The best remedy is the assurance of safety, which can only be effectual when coming from a medical attendant, in whom she has unlimited confidence. A perfect illustration of the necessary condition for the reception of morbid agencies is afforded in puerperal cases. The consequent depression following labour, so predisposes the system to the reception of morbid agents, that the least possible emanation from the medical attendant, is sufficient to generate puerperal fever. A sporadic case has just terminated fatally here, and women recently confined, as well as those pregnant, are in a state of alarm, which may possibly produce an epidemic. A lady who had been present at the puerperal case referred to, and who had been confined three months, believed she had contracted the disease, the writer was telegraphed to go in haste; he found the patient in the most distressing alarm imaginable, and presenting a most pitiable appearance, but being assured there was nothing but fright, she cheered up at once and laughed at her own folly. In this case a confirmation of her own diagnosis, with the Gordonian treatment, probably would have resulted fatally.

If then, health and consequent longevity are dependent, to a great extent, upon a felicitous state of the mind, these most desirable attainments are within the reach of every rational being. Physicians especially, who are, or ought to be, thoroughly versed in physiological law, should be very Stoics in practice, setting an example to others worthy of imitation. The writer attributes his continuous good health during forty-five years of professional toil, to his uninterrupted flow of blissful feelings. Disposition is as much under the control of cultivation as any other faculty. If the writer has been sufficiently happy in the selection of his illustrations and their arrangement, to establish the existence of a general physiological law, the very consciousness of having contributed something towards elevating to the rank of a science a profession to which he has devoted a long life, will be a full and precious reward. Medicine as a science will be infinitely more important to mankind than all other sciences combined. We have only to establish its principles on a scientific basis to insure universal assent to its pre-eminence. The secret of the confidence of men of letters in the doctrine of