

to the discomfiture of the wafarer, tracking his path through the narrow streets, with his lantern in his hand." What a picture for us to criticize in the present day! And yet we scarcely realize all the hard work, ignorance, bigotry, persecution and glorious self-denial that have given us what we have to-day in our Western civilization.

Much progress has been due to the work of societies, such as that grand old society, the Royal Society of London. As university men and as educationalists knowing as we do that our present day conditions are due to the dissemination of knowledge, we should organize and promote similar societies and see to it that they hold as prominent a place in the community as the churches. It was by the Royal Society that Harvey's discovery of the circulation of the blood, was first accepted. The same Society gave so much encouragement to vaccination that Queen Caroline submitted her own children to the operation. All scientific observers are satisfied that Queen Caroline was right and the Royal Society was right. Then it was demonstrated that scurvy, the curse of long sea voyages, could be cured by the use of vegetable substances. We follow along and find jails and buildings ventilated and illuminated with gas. Cities were lit up and made much more habitable. If we expect to have progress, we must rally around our educational institutions and see to it that they are well provided with the means required to carry on efficiently and well the work of scientific investigation, and that they are untrammelled by the views of either church or state, remembering always that the slogan of the twentieth century is, "Knowledge is power." If this is done, man cannot lapse again into the dark days of the dismal centuries, when pestilences were looked upon as the visitation of God and not as we know them to be, the consequences of filth and wretchedness, easily prevented by personal and municipal cleanliness. In the twelfth century it was found necessary to pave the streets of Paris, as the stench from them was unbearable. Dysenteries and spotted fever, that had been prevalent, diminished and a sanitary condition was soon established, that approached to that of the Moorish cities of Spain, that had been paved for centuries. But alas for backsliding. Many of the Spanish cities have been allowed to lapse into an insanitary condition and the evidences of Spanish sanitation, as I saw it in Cuba, were not calculated to excite enthusiasm. Under the control of Western civilization and the proper application of knowledge matters have been changed. When it was decided that plagues were not a visitation of God, quarantine was established. Nothing has protected the human race to a greater extent than the establishment of proper quarantine.

When anesthetics were first introduced their use in labor