

crease but it increased. In this case, then, the remedy now proposed failed, and in our opinion it will fail again. Are we, then, opposed to a more liberal education for those who desire to enter our Profession? By no means. We are in favor of it. We simply mean to assert that as the want of such education is not the sole cause of the evils complained of, it is not the remedy which will remove them. By insisting upon a more liberal education we will without doubt improve the general tone of the Profession, but if we expect such a requirement to do away with overcrowding, to convert a cad into a gentleman, to abolish quackery from our ranks, we will be most sadly disappointed. Other causes besides the lack of preliminary education enter into the production of the evils of which the President very properly complains. Of these causes we will refer to a few—the tendency of those in the rural districts to remove to the large towns and cities irrespective of their calling—the inborn love of quackery among the people generally especially in matters medical—the natural “cussedness” of human nature which prompts individuals to desert the straight and narrow path of strict professional etiquette to travel on the wider and more devious paths of the quack and the charlatan. As we have said we do not believe that raising the standard of preliminary education alone will cure these evils. What further can be done in this direction? We fear that the crowding into cities will go on in spite of all that may be written or said. As to the other evils much may be done in educating the laity to believe and to know that their surest and best reliance is to be placed on the educated and intelligent physician, and that the charlatan and mountebank is to be avoided as one would avoid the three card monte man, for they will not only rob them of their money but so undermine their health that when they turn as a last resort to the qualified and honourable physician their case has become hopeless, and like the little girl with her catechism they have got beyond redemption. Much too, it has seemed to us, could and should be done in the medical schools. A course of lectures upon medical etiquette by some member of the faculty whose age and experience and honourable standing in the profession command the respect of all, should in our opinion form part of the final year’s work. That even these means will entirely obliterate the evils complained of by the President, we do not