

"Such a man may be a graduate of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, and I will have no cause of complaint should he in an exigency deem it appropriate to administer the third potency of aconite, or he may be a graduate of a college founded under homœopathic auspices, and yet I can not object if he thinks the occasion demands twenty grains of quinine. But if a physician calls himself allopathic and is summoned as such, it would be a fraud to resort to homœopathic treatment without full disclosure to the patient of what was proposed. If, however, we are to have a class of men who purpose, in the interest of humanity, to utilize the best that they can find in any and every school, 'pathist,' as a designation of fixed methods of practice must be ignored, and the broad and noble title 'physician,' in its unreserved sense, be revived and substituted.

"The patient will understand, when he sends for one of this class, that he is to have the physician's best judgment in the unprejudiced use of the ripest fruits of modern discovery in every field. I see that I have done more than simply answer your question. But I am sure you will pardon a layman for taking advantage of the occasion to intimate the need of greater clearness of professional attitude—both as a matter of justice to the patient and and as due to the integrity of the physician.

"Respectfully yours,

"GEO. C. BARRETT."

The above correspondence appeared in the *New York Medical Times* for April, 1889. Now, when it is understood that that periodical is the homœopath's organ, the significance of their comments on the opinion of this eminent jurist will be apparent. Homœopaths condemn all methods of treatment other than their own; but note the confession the *Times* makes; it expresses surprise when it realizes the "actual position of those who call themselves homœopaths, and practise everything else beside homœopathy as well." Not a very creditable confession! The *Times* also says: "Hereafter, practitioners will have to adhere to that mode of practice which they claim to represent, or else perhaps lose their fees; and be liable to action for malpractice into the bargain. *There is no doubt* (note this well; the italics are mine) "*that ninety-nine out of a hundred of those who call themselves homœopathists practice medicine in the light of the present, and do not confine themselves to the use of small*