

writer made the assertion that the busy practitioner should have every seventh year entirely free from professional work, in order to compensate for the prolonged strain and the loss of the seventh day's rest. In fact, let us be wise, and prescribe for ourselves just in the same manner we would for our patients.

Medical men, as a rule, do not follow strict business methods in their financial affairs. The chief reasons for this grave and serious irregularity in business methods are :—

(1) The irregular life they are obliged to lead, especially in severe epidemics and unhealthy seasons, long drives and irregular hours soon upset method and order, and the accounts rapidly assume a state of chaos.

Finally his affairs get into a state of inextricable confusion, the unfortunate medico being driven into despair and is obliged to make a settlement with his patients, often, considerably under the proper value through the want of a proper statement to guide him. I have known a physician to pass an entire week without even taking a note or making an entry of his daily work.

(2) Many are too sensitive to send out their accounts regularly and are too modest to claim a proper honorarium, or it may be, they are too dilatory in their work to do so in a regular manner. Why should the medical man who has gone to great expense and labor, sacrificing his time for years while securing his professional training, hesitate to claim a fair honorarium ?

No other class in any community is called upon to make greater sacrifices of time and comfort, and which so readily and conscientiously responds to calls of distress, or is so abundant in deeds of charity. Then what should he fear in claiming a fair pecuniary reward, or why should he defer the day of reckoning ?

The progressive physician will be ever on the alert to provide himself with the latest devices to save time and labor, so as to allow himself all the freedom and relaxation consistent with the demands of his profession.

The minor affairs of professional life are apt to be thought too insignificant to occupy the attention of such an assembly as this learned body, yet we must remember that life is made up of a series of details, each important in itself, we cannot always live in the clouds or upper strata of science, but must descend from time to time to the more homely affairs of life, in order to refresh and invigorate ourselves for the higher plane of thought.

I have endeavoured to confine my remarks to some of the more commonplace subjects which interest us all alike, leaving the scientific side of our professional needs for your admirable papers and discussions.