

the painter has pitched on the early hour of the morning for the time. . . . The sick child, worn with the raging fever, lies spent and exhausted. Till then the parents have been fighting on with their nursing: soothing, caressing, encouraging their little one, and hoping against hope seems all that is left to them. And there sits their friend—the gentle doctor—watching with them, and still puzzling his brains to think what more he can devise to stay the lamp of life from flickering out. He is no courtly physician, no London specialist, that man (thank God!). He is only a country doctor. But his somewhat rugged face tells of honesty, and common sense, and self-reliance, and gentleness. What more do you want? The men that look like that man, whatever be their business or trade or profession, whatever be their wealth or their social position, I say, of such men is the kingdom of heaven.” The original picture is now in the Tate Gallery, London. We do not pretend that the majority of physicians are saints or heroes; but we do contend that the practice of our profession furnishes grand opportunities for good work in the interests of suffering humanity. We are proud to think that in all parts of Canada there are physicians who make the most of such opportunities.

Some may wonder whether Fildes' doctor will continue to exist. We are told that therapeutics is becoming unpopular because there has been in the past, and is now, too much empiricism in our methods of treatment. The all-important subjects among the final branches are diagnosis, prognosis and pathology. It is supposed by some that the “McClure” and the “gentle doctor” will go out of fashion, and that the modern physician will struggle longer and puzzle more over his diagnosis, and, then in a case such as Fildes' sick child, he will turn to the mother with a bland smile on his wise face, and say to her: “Madam, this is really a most interesting case. It has been very puzzling, but I am pleased to be able to say I have made a diagnosis and prognosis. This child has malignant endocarditis and will die in about five or six hours. I can do nothing more for you now, but I shall call in the morning to make a post-mortem examination.”

One of the most vexed questions of the present day is the preparation of general practitioners, *i.e.*, methods of medical education. In recent years there have been many discussions on the subject in the British Medical Association. I am glad that our friend, Dr. Connell, of Kingston, will read a paper on the subject at this meeting. The amount of work in all departments of medicine has increased so enormously during recent years that students are bewildered, confused and dis-