

the limit of wild claim is reached when we are told that it is unrivalled as a means of preventing disease. It would be worse than folly to treat the spinal columns of the inhabitants living beside a marsh as the means of preventing ague or yellow fever, instead of getting rid of the mosquitos; or by twisting the necks and punching the backs of little children in the case of scarlet fever rather than the sane way of separating the sick from the well.

Then we are told about what it can do in the hands of competent persons; and also that chiropractic has been exploited by cheap men. No brilliant results can follow this method of treatment, for it is in the very nature of things impossible that such could be the case. It is entirely false that the spinal column is the cause of 95 per cent. of all diseases. It is also false that in the few cases where there is some displacement, or inflammatory deposit, or new formation, or disease of a bone, that the *chiropractic thrust* would effect a cure. There may be some persons who think there is something the matter with their backs, or who are told as much, or who are nervous subjects, who may be acted on mentally and declare they are better for the treatment, like the ignorant girl who said she was almost blind, and who, after being treated by a "healer", said she could now see almost as well as ever, though by proper tests there was no change in her range of vision. There are many people who can be easily imposed upon, and all such can secure their heart's desire in this direction by adopting chiropractic treatment.

As to the "incurable" and "hopeless" cases referred to, we would state that all systems put forth these claims. We have seen the advertisement for a patent medicine, and certificates that it cured locomotor ataxia, etc., etc. Now, this was a falsehood; but it sold the medicine to those who knew no better. So with any system. If a patient is told that he has a displacement in his spinal column, and that the same can be put into place by some sort of manipulation, he may believe this fully and think he has been cured of a serious trouble. Martin Luther once said that three-fourths of the people are waiting for some one to fool them, and Barnum remarked that if Luther was right, he was going after the three-fourths.

With regard to the story about the giraffe, we would remark that there is such a thing as *chiropractic*, and that it is much more *misshapen* than that long-necked animal. As Caliban was hideous in form, so chiropractic is a still more hideously deformed view of the conception of disease and its treatment.

To show that we are not too severe upon this travesty on treatment called chiropractic, we quote a few lines from a small pamphlet sent us by our correspondent. Here are the words: 1st, that the physical cause