

independence of manner is the surest way to independence of fortune.

To those who live in large cities, and who desire to make themselves *authorities* in medical science, we say give special attention to some department that is congenial to your tastes, and make yourself a necessity to the profession in that department. This is best accomplished by cultivating scholarly and practical thoroughness, and by communicating the results of our investigations through the medical journals, at the meetings of societies, and by personal influence.

In our dress, manners, equipage, and in the location of our office, we should conform to the approved customs of the class among whom we desire to practice. Our furniture and apparel should at least not repel, even though they do not positively attract. Goethe says that we ought to conform to the world in trivial matters in order that we may more successfully oppose it in subjects of vital import. This should be the rule for physicians.

As a general rule the majority of our patients will be like ourselves. The attraction of character is as natural and as irresistible as that of gravity, and like doctor like patient, is probably as true as "like priest like people." Cultivated, scholarly, high-minded physicians will have cultivated, scholarly, high-minded patients, who will gravitate to them by the law of unconscious affinity.

Those who attempt to build up a practice on a higher plane of culture and character than that to which they belong, and for which they have affinity, will usually fail. Expensive dress, elegant furniture, and showy turn-outs will not permanently compensate for the lack of character. Those who expect to jump into a permanently lucrative practice by the aid of mere externals will usually be disappointed. They may "grow into it," as the expression is, but their growth will be like that of trees, slow, silent, and almost imperceptible.

Editorial Notices,

PRICE LIST.

Our readers can rely upon the correctness of the price list which we publish, as it is taken from the *Pharmaceutical Journal*, published and conducted by a Committee representing the retail and wholesale houses in this City. In connection with this, we must state that we have to omit this month our price list, in consequence of the action taken by the editors of the *Pharmaceutical Journal*, who have made it a copyright.

DETROIT MEDICAL COLLEGE.

This new Medical Institution whose course of Lectures commence upon the second of February next, has secured (from what we can find out) Physicians of high standing in the Profession, as Lecturers. The City of Detroit has good Hospital facilities, and we have no doubt but that this Medical Institution will be able to command a good attendance.

We call the attention of Physicians to the advertisement of Mr. W. Saunders, of London, he is well known to the profession as a reliable chemist. The various articles which he manufactures (those desiring to obtain) will be found satisfactory as regards purity, strength, and general correctness in preparation, they have given satisfaction to those who have been in the habit of purchasing them for a length of time.

Reviews.

CONSERVATIVE SURGERY, in its general and successful adaptation in cases of severe traumatic injuries of the limbs, with a report of cases, by ALBERT G. WALTER, M.D. *"Præstat natura vocem doceri quam ingenio suo sapere."* Pittsburg: W. G. Johnston & Co., Printers.

The author in his preface modestly announces his reasons for giving the profession the results of thirty years' experience in conservative surgery. He commences first by giving his theory and practice, which is stated to be the first time promulgated. Long and deep longitudinal incisions to give free vent for the escape of effused blood, no attempts to be made to bring the injured parts together by means of stitches, the placing of the injured limb upon splints of sheet iron or tin, the use of warm poultices or fomentations, assisted by local and general supporting measures, are the means advocated, and supported by an array of successful cases, ought to convince any rational man that these views have had a careful trial, and are well worthy the attention of the profession. We might raise the objection which has already been done by several reviewers, that only the successful cases had been given, but as this has been answered by the author in a communication to the *Philadelphia Medical and Surgical Reporter*, we shall give his own words:—

"I thank you for the notice of my monograph in the *Reporter* of the 5th inst., but feel aggrieved at the question of the reviewer, 'Are all the cases reported in which this method was used, or only the successful ones?' The length of time (more than seventeen years) which I allowed to pass by, and the number of cases which I patiently accumulated, before giving publicity to my experience in the conservative field, should, I think, have shielded me from an insinuation of having acted unfairly in the matter. To do this in any profession would be derogatory to the true spirit which should animate its members; but in the medical, it would be even criminal. I feel, therefore, bound in justice to myself, to state that all the cases in which the conservative practice had been tried, have been reported, and that no failure—by loss of limb or life—has been the consequence where openness of wound, accompanied with incision of integument and fasciæ, had been early and promptly instituted.