

apparently well to do. A proper revision of the relation of medical and surgical fees to one another is much needed, and the ruling of the Association on the ethics of commissions is required. A special committee of this Association should be appointed to investigate these matters and submit a report at our next meeting. It has been said that knowledge is no barren cold essence, but it is alive with the colors of the earth and sky, and is radiant with light and stars. If we endeavor to follow along the lines of experimental investigation of natural phenomena, we must obtain a fondness for the impartiality and truth which such a study incites. Says Draper, "we will thus dedicate our days to the good of the human race, so that in the fading light of life's evening, we may not on looking back, be forced to acknowledge how insignificant and useless are the objects that we have pursued."

A paragraph that has greatly interested me by way of retrospect, is the following: "In olden times the surface of the continent of Europe was for the most part covered with pathless forests; here and there it was dotted with monasteries and towns. There were low-lying districts sometimes hundreds of miles in extent, that spread agues far and wide. In Paris and in London, the two largest cities, the houses were built of wood and daubed with clay and the roofs were thatched with straw or reeds. There were no windows and very few had wooden floors, until after the introduction of the saw-mill and such a thing as a carpet was unknown. A little straw scattered here and there in the room was the covering used for the floor. As there were no chimneys, the smoke of the ill-fed, cheerless fire, escaped Indian wigwam-wise, through a hole in the roof. It is needless to say that in such habitations there was but little protection from the weather. No attempt was made at drainage and the putrefying garbage and rubbish were thrown out of the doors. Men, women and children slept in the same apartment and not unfrequently with domestic animals as companions, and as a consequence, neither modesty nor morality could be maintained. The bed was usually a bag of straw, and a wooden log for a pillow. Personal cleanliness was unknown and great officers of the state, even dignitaries so high as the Archbishop of Canterbury, swarmed with vermin. Perfumes were largely used to conceal personal impurity. Many of the citizens clothed themselves in leather, a garment that with its ever-accumulating impurity lasted for many years. If a man could procure fresh meat once a week for his dinner, he was considered to be in easy circumstances. Not only was there no house drainage but there was no street sewerage. There were no pavements or street lamps. After nightfall the shutters were thrown open and the slops were unceremoniously emptied down,