

finitely greater. These distinctions, moreover, are the means of drawing more closely the bonds of affection which bind the various parts of the empire together. Neither does the giving of them when done with discretion impoverish the royal source whence they flow. We attribute this apparent neglect to the well-known self-negation of the members of our profession whenever its interests are concerned; this is evidenced by the unbounded charity and unselfish devotion of the medical man often in the face of the basest ingratitude. Lawyers seldom give their services day after day without the hope of pecuniary reward, and yet when a lawyer reaches a certain position in his profession on the bench he receives the honor of knighthood as a matter of course. The medical profession of Canada has long considered this lack of appreciation as a slight as well as an injustice, and we think it is now time for it to ask whether it should not at least receive the recognition which it deserves and which it receives elsewhere.

THYROID GLANDS AS MEDICINE.

We see in a recent number of the *Medical Press and Circular* that thyroid glands are supposed to be of such value in several diseases, notably myxœdema and psoriasis, that the butchers have put up the price. Even a physician, who is suffering from psoriasis, writes to the above journal to know whether the thyroid of any animal would do as well as that of the sheep.

It sounds more like witchcraft than nineteenth century science to see such evidences of credulity as are witnessed every day by the vaunting of different parts of animals for the cure of special diseases. We smile when we read the fashionable prescriptions of five thousand years ago, which include such articles as parts of a dog's foot, legs of a black spider, skin of a frog, etc.; but are we really very much in advance of our ancestors when we gravely eat "a ragged bit of flesh like liver, about half the size of a rabbit's ear," as the writer above referred to describes it, with the firm belief that it is going to cure a case of inveterate psoriasis? If people with psoriasis would pay more attention to their diet, eat less meat, drink more water and breathe

more good air, they would be more likely to be cured than if they ate an unlimited quantity of thyroid glands.

BOOK NOTICES.

LE MÉDECIN DE LA FAMILLE, World Publishing Company, Guelph, Canada, 1893.

Is the title of a new work just issued, which is the French edition of that excellent and reliable family medical book, *The Practical Home Physician*. The newly revised edition of the latter stands at the head of all similar works. "*Le Médecin de la Famille*" in typography, paper and binding presents a superior appearance to its English prototype. The text in both the English and French editions is correct in style and intelligible to every reader. New contributions appear from the pens of Dr. Sévérin Lachapelle and Dr. L. E. Fortier of our City, members of the Medical Faculty of Laval University.

The work is well called not only the Home Physician, but an Encyclopædia of Medicine and of Hygiene, public and private. It is a large volume of over 1300 pages, profusely illustrated with about 230 engravings and colored plates. The manikins of the head and of the body, and the other colored anatomical plates are exceedingly good, and interesting to the medical practitioner as well as to the general reader. The various subjects treated of are very numerous, but the exhaustive and complete Indexes enable you quickly to find any particular matter desired.

Everyone should have a general knowledge of Anatomy and Physiology, of the laws of health, of the diseases and accidents commonly met with, and the remedies usually applied. The intelligent patient could thereby better appreciate the importance of the science of medicine, and could better assist the physician in his practice.

In the work before us a vast amount of useful information about Hygiene in its application to our daily life is set forth in about 100 pages, which should be read and studied by every household. To be forewarned is to be forearmed. The knowledge herein given as to the various diseases, their causes, symptoms and treatment, including most excellent prescriptions, is such that the intelligent reader may better guard against disease, and when present can more successfully manage and control it.

The book is of great value to every household; the subscription price of \$4.75 or \$5.75, according to binding, brings it within the reach of all.