

## Editorial Notes.

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**"Chloroform at Sixty."**—No reflective man reaches his meridian without realizing the value and sacredness of human life in its general sense as well as in its individual manifestation. The profession of medicine stands as the guardian of human life, and it is something of a shock to even the most careless that a representative of the profession should speak in favor of shortening the term of life as a routine measure. The Anglo-Saxon race particularly is exacting in its standards of dignity, sympathy, and insight for the physician, in its demands that he individualize, not generalize, in his measures. An utterance from a leader in the profession reflecting on the usefulness of existence beyond a certain period comes with depressing force to the sensitive, reacts with doubt and distrust upon the general profession. As a serious utterance it would be pessimistic in its every tendency; as a jest it is foreign to the genius of the profession, worthy only of the professional joker or the notoriety seeker. Dr. Osler, of course, cannot be classed under either of these categories, and it is peculiarly unfortunate, just on the eve of his departure from America to take one of the leading medical professorships in Great Britain, that a public utterance of his should be distorted by newspaper "enterprise" apparently to signify depreciation of human age-value. We have not seen the text of the address, but Dr. Osler telegraphs us: "Contradict, please, in *American Medicine*, that I advised chloroform for men at sixty. Wm. Osler." The sympathy of all physicians who respect the dignity of their profession and appreciate the value of individual human experience should be extended to Dr. Osler for his annoyance under this most recent instance of newspaper misunderstanding of professional ideals.—*American Medicine*.

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**"Oslerize"—An Unfortunate Addition to the Dictionaries.**—Lost is the journal, lay or medical, yellow, pink, or white, that does not nowadays have a column devoted to Dr. Osler's reported opinions concerning the value, or preferably the valuelessness, of older men. To oslerize, to be oslerized, or worthy to be oslerized, are new terms which the lexicographer must henceforth define. And with a groan! Because he will have to caution against confounding the term with *Bowdlerize*, which