

notoriously prone to constipation. Therefore, this should receive proper attention, chiefly in the regulation of diet, including a sufficient amount of fruit, raw and cooked, and of cereals giving a large residue of cellulose.

With this method of treatment many a physician has achieved success which was rewarded tenfold, by the sight of rosy faces and bright eyes.

WHAT IS THE MORAL OF THIS INCIDENT?

Dr. X enjoys the largest general practice uptown. His large automobile is always on the go. He paid me a visit this afternoon. He was in the neighborhood, he said, and he thought he would drop in and make the acquaintance of the editor of the "brightest and most interesting medical journal published." He evinced some interest in the environment of the C. & G. office. He noticed a large number—over two hundred—of different journals of the current year, neatly arranged in piles. "You read all of them?" "Yes." "Where do you get the time?" "You can get the time for anything, if you really want to." "Well, I can't. All I read is the *J. A. M. A.* and the *Critic and Guide*. I think they are the best journals published. And you and Dr. Simmons deserve a great deal of credit for the work you are doing with reference to patent medicines and proprietary nostrums. Great work. Time the physician's eyes were opened." Here he coughed and continued: "Would you please let me have a swallow of water? I have a little cold." The office boy brought a glass of water. Dr. X took out a tablet from a box in his vest-pocket and swallowed it, washing it down with the water. The tablet was an antikamnia and codeine tablet.

I said nothing.

A life subscription to the reader who will point out the best moral of this incident.—From the *Critic and Guide*, May, 1907.

THE MORAL: On page 8 of the January, 1907, *Critic and Guide*, appears the following editorial, with which, no doubt, Dr. X fully agrees:

"When a patient comes to consult me and pays me a fee, then my sole sacred duty is towards that patient and towards nobody else. And I am going to use on him and prescribe for him whatever I consider most useful for him, regardless of all other considerations. Whether the preparation is trade-marked or not, whether it has a fanciful name or not, whether it has a circular around the bottle or not, whether the druggist makes 50 or only 5 per cent. profit on it—for all of these things the patient does not care a picayune; and neither do I."