

but lost his life. Physicians were employed and powerful emetics administered, but the stomach seemed absolutely paralyzed! This kind of recklessness and folly is not so common as that wherein young people at a clambake or a picnic make merry over showing each other how many good things they can demolish. If people were really taught from childhood how mysteriously they are made and how delicately their digestive machinery is constructed, neither wages nor frivolity would lead them into fatal excesses.

#### Queer Medical Laws.

Those in the medical profession who are in favor of proscriptive laws which shall give them the inside track in the practice of medicine, succeed in getting some queer bills passed. We referred in our July number to one passed in California, which, literally interpreted, makes every practising physician liable to pay a license fee of \$100 per month, or \$1200 per year! The legislature of Ontario, Canada, passed a medical act debarring any American practitioner from coming across the line to practice, prescribe or consult unless he could show something better than an American diploma. Under the Ontario act the authors of the very books used in the medical schools of Ontario would have to attend one year at some college in the province and study their own books before they could register or practice. Unless the American school which graduated them is considered worthy of recognition they would have to study for four years! It is said that there have been cases of arrest of eminent men for a violation of this law while in consultation or attending patients in Ontario. The *Tribune* thinks "A little sensible discrimination might be made between doctors that are no doctors and doctors who come with the credentials of world-famous schools, unless the real object of the law in question is to get pupils for feeble Canadian colleges."

The Canadian laws, however, are quite as favorable to us as ours are to them. In the state of New York a physician who has graduated from a Canadian college must obtain the endorsement of the dean of some one of our medical universities to make his diploma pass current if he wishes to practice here. By and by the people will revolt against all this interference on the part of the self-styled "regulars," and will insist that they have a right to employ anybody they choose. In Massachusetts when the old fogies of the profession undertook to obtain similar enactments the people remonstrated so unanimously that the bill failed. They appeared in the legislative committees against the doctors, charged that the doctors were doing this kind of work wholly under the promptings of selfishness; that the people themselves had asked for no such legislation; and then they proceeded to present evidence that more cures were performed by the "irregulars" than by the "regulars." The people triumphed and medicine is free in the old Bay state.

FORGOTTEN people are already beginning to provide for the Holidays, and let them search no further than the advertising columns of the *HEALTH MONTHLY*, for better can't be found at the price than the books offered as premiums. Remember that even a week or more may be required to get the book or article desired, even though we send the goods immediately on receipt of the order.

## Obituary.

### Dr. Robert S. Newton is Dead.

We seldom give space to obituary matter. The constantly recurring live issues affecting the living, crowd out all reference to the dead. Our space is limited. We try to make the best of it. But when such a staunch old friend, one who was not only dear to us, but to all supporters of true eclecticism in medicine, is removed by the merciless hand of death, we must acquaint our readers with our loss and their loss.

Prof. Robert S. Newton has done a noble work in the field of liberal medicine. We will only allude to his literary work in conjunction with the eminent Wm. Byrd Powell, Dr. King, and others. Several books have come from his pen, and he has long been the editor of the *Medical Eclectic*, etc. His labors have been of still greater value in organizing the school of eclecticism in the state of New York, and in founding and successfully conducting the Eclectic College of the City of New York. He was president of the faculty and dean of the college at the time of his death.

We were more grieved than surprised when a friend handed us a morning paper with the remark that it contained an obituary notice of one to whom we were greatly attached.

The Doctor had made a pleasant call at our office only a few days before, and we remarked to him that he looked considerably worn. He replied that he felt so, as his professional engagements had prevented him from going out of the city during the summer. A conscientious physician in large practice is in about the same situation as a true captain at the helm during a storm. Valuable lives are entrusted to his charge. However greatly he may need rest, those in his care must receive his closest attention. Dr. Newton looked more exhausted than we felt at liberty to speak, and hence we say we were more grieved than surprised when we read that he died of apoplexy on the 9th of October.

By the death of Dr. Newton, the friends of liberal medicine have lost a powerful champion. He was the friend of every honest enthusiast who believed he possessed some new method of relieving human suffering. Such a person had only to be attacked by the "regulars" to find Prof. Newton at his side ready to help him to fight his battle with his old school enemies.

Having suffered much himself in his crusade against the old system of medical practice, he was at once in hearty sympathy with any honest practitioner who fell under the condemnation of allopathy. Then, too, he was large-hearted, generous to a fault. The poor have lost a real friend. Had he pursued his medical vocation with a single eye to business, he would have died rich in this world's goods, while probably the real fact is that he leaves little except a reputation for skill, liberality in medicine, generosity to those who needed advice, medical aid, or pecuniary assistance. But we will not forget that he has left a talented son a rich legacy—a good name—wrought out of nearly forty years' professional industry in a vocation which permits few holidays or hours of rest, but great opportunities for doing good. The latter were never dodged by the generous Dr. R. S. Newton, and this familiar name so dear to a large constituency throughout the United States is now left to Dr. R. S. Newton the younger. May we hope he will fill the place his illustrious father has so long and so honorably occupied. Young Dr. Newton has had the advantages of a thorough education at home and abroad, and now that his much loved and greatly lamented father has passed away, the friends of the latter will naturally look to the former to show those strong traits of character which have made his widely known sire one of the most conspicuous lights in the school of medical eclecticism.

With a friend who was bent on business, we lately had the pleasure of visiting the warerooms of the Chickering pianoforte. As many ladies enjoy a shopping trip, and an opportunity to inspect all the new goods, so we enjoyed the chance of looking through the largest and finest lot of pianos to be found in New York City. One who goes there to select just the best one, is a little puzzled which to choose, when finding all so perfect in mechanism and so rich in tone. Yet there is variety enough for one of trained ear to find a favorite, and finally a selection was made of one of the new metal-action up-rights. What a fine premium (we thought) that would make for subscribers to the *HEALTH MONTHLY*, but not until folks are ready to pay \$500 a year for the *HEALTH MONTHLY*, could we afford to throw in a Chickering piano as a premium.