

been in use for some time, M. v. Valta recommends the following:—The sponge is first washed with water as well as possible, then placed upon a plate, a little powdered calcium chloride being sprinkled over it and allowed to liquefy; after about thirty minutes it may be washed with water and dried, when it will have an appearance like a new sponge.—*N. C. Med. Journal.*

GOOD WORK AND BAD IN MEDICINE.—The following graphic sketches of two types of professional workers are from a recent address of Dr. Andrew Clark:

In the work of the younger members of our profession I see, or at least I think that I see, greater care, patience, and accuracy in observation, a more rigorous fidelity in the record of therapeutical experiments, wiser caution in speculation, graver deliberation in judgment, a growing frankness in the confessions of oversights and errors, increasing severity in the sifting and testing of their own conclusions, a readier effacement of personality in the work, less unseemly eagerness for mere priority of publication, a deepened sense of the responsibilities of premature speech and writings, a rapidly abating bitterness in the conflicts of opposing views, a more robust and manlier spirit of scientific life, and less reluctance in making admission that there is no unconditional truth in the results of our inquiries—no finality in our finished work—no creed in medicine.

But, for one competent and conscientious worker there are ten incompetent and unconscientious, and who in divers ways hinder our progress and spoil our present possessions. Intolerant of the patient and painful toil of the true worker, acute in power of superficial observation, gifted with a certain showy versatility, quick at catching hold of new ideas, ingenious in guessing, crude in experiments, loose in therapeutic trials, hasty in speculation, strong in dogmatic assertions, accomplished in the transfiguration and use of other men's work, finding what they want wherever they seek, unhindered by difficulties, facile in speech, ready in writing, thirsting for notice, such men, now, alas! not uncommon in medicine, beget papers so quickly that they can have no necessary relation to time, observation, or thought, and flood our literature with their unworthy if not unvarnished lucubrations.

The favourite hunting-ground of such men is therapeutics, and their favourite sport is the catching of new remedies, the putting of them to new uses, and the setting forth of their successful results. These men discern no difficulties and have few failures; they can illustrate their successes by scores of cases, and explain them by the most ingenious theories. There is scarcely any limit to the extent or the variety of their achievements; and, as they flaunt along in the fulness of self-satisfaction, they look down with pitying condescension upon those in the strait and narrow way, who conscientiously toil with small success in seeking after truth, but who, nevertheless, missing the praise of men, find strength and solace in the sacred search.

A METHOD OF CLEANING CATHETERS.—A correspondent of the *Lancet* says:—"Take a cork of more conical form than that commonly used, with a hole made through it longitudinally; pass the catheter through the hole, and fix the cork into the tap of an ordinary water pipe (hot water one preferable), and turn on the water. By so doing, the force of the water is greatly increased, and the catheter is properly cleaned."

Dr. JOHN L. ALTEE, relates of Dr. Thomas C. James, Professor of Midwifery, in the University of Pennsylvania, in 1815—"That he was a very modest and agreeable gentleman of Quaker origin. He had such a sense of delicacy that he could not bring himself to lecture on the female organs of generation, but entrusted this part of his course to Dr. Horner."

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, ENGLAND.—In Collegiate year 1882-83, there were 1,119 candidates for the primary examination, of whom 324, or 28.95 p. c. were rejected, and 769 for final, of whom 281, or 36.54 p. c. were rejected. This includes 13 from Canada in the two examinations, of whom 3, or 23 p. c. were rejected.

BROMIDE OF SODIUM IN SEA-SICKNESS.—Mr. T. M. Kendal, in the *British Medical Journal*, says that bromide of sodium, in doses of ten grains three times a day, is the best remedy for sea-sickness.

A CHINESE doctor, in Arizona Territory, was fined \$100, because his diploma turned out to be only a laundry list.

Puck defines an ear-ring as a convention of otologists. The *Medical Age* asks, "would it call a dentist a tooth-pick?"