

Tibbitts, page 143. "M. Rosenthal cured with the constant current the following case (of torticollis): \* \* the passing of a constant current through the affected muscles caused immediately a freer motion of the head."—Meyer, page 372. "In its earlier stages, however, it may be cured by electrical treatment alone."—Rockwell, page 60.

(Writer's Cramp). "That form which depends upon an asthenia of the extensor muscles is best removed through their faradization, while the neuritis is cured by the use of the constant current."—Meyer, page 365. "As generally all other means fail to effect a cure in this troublesome complaint, I cannot too strongly recommend practitioners to resort at once to galvanization."—Althaus, page 575. "Rest is here imperative. If in the earlier stages this is taken, and the proper electrical treatment administered, the symptoms in many cases yield readily enough."—Rockwell, page 72.

Yours, etc.,

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Toronto, Feb. 17, '82.

### ADVICE TO YOUNG PRACTITIONERS.

To the Editor of the CANADA LANCET.

SIR,—The following letter of advice from an old practitioner to the prospective graduate in medicine may interest some of the readers of the LANCET.

Yours, etc., J. W. H.

DEAR PUPIL,—It is, and has always seemed, very strange that there is not instituted a special series of lectures for the senior students of the medical schools—such lectures not to be so much directed to any particular theme, but to a consideration of ethics, in other words, the relationship of medical men to each other and to the public—to a consideration of the young practitioner's duties as a medical man and as a citizen. For example: In the first instance he might be instructed in the manner of charging for his services, and in collecting the same,—how to appear personally, what to assume in his daily life, what company he should associate with—in fact, what would entitle him to be considered a member of our most honorable fraternity, and what to avoid if he wishes not to disgrace it and himself. The reader of this might say that any one knows enough for that. I partly admit it; but you will agree with me when

I say that lectures directed to the subject just before the young medico is given the long sought for honors of his degree, would be the means of directing him aright at the outset, and give a more uniform degree of dignity, than if it were left for his manhood to adopt. I also deem it the duty of our colleges to instruct students in regard to such medicines, surgical instruments and other accessories as they may need in establishing themselves in practice. I can look back some thirteen years to my commencement and see wherein I made some expenses uncalled for, associated with those whose influence and society were derogatory to myself and profession, observing not that gentlemanly seclusion which, to-day, I fully acknowledge as salutary, to a considerable extent, in every profession. As to expenses, I might refer to the needless one of having one's professional card in a newspaper. It has always seemed to me unprofessional and decidedly useless, and yet I have actually thrown—yes, tossed to the winds—some forty or fifty dollars in such advertising. I am pleased to notice that the practice of advertising is getting unpopular among the older and better class of physicians. Young practitioner, put your foot on this evil. I have also been harrassed (this word does not half express my meaning) by the travelling literary gentlemen and drug agents—the former to draw my attention to some late medical work, journal, instrument or appliance; the latter to solicit an order for some new pharmaceutical preparations. The book agent is a bore. Recently a member of this order entered my office, threw down from his arms a great roll, which, when opened, proved to be an atlas of anatomy. After the grand opening and commencement of his stereotyped appeal, I directed his attention to a combination of letters—large type, in frame—which for those of his order I keep constantly in place—NO. Reader, just adopt my simple plan. Your course will have furnished you with what works you need in practice. The United States Dispensary is a convenient work, and from it you can actually learn more of medicine than any work I know of. I would advise you to subscribe for "Wood's Medical Library," published yearly; yet in so doing, I must admit that two-thirds of the works are useful as reference only, and make your library larger. I maintain that, although the "library" is cheap, if the money for it was ex