

duct? A phenomenon of matter. What is electricity? A phenomenon of matter. What is that which we call life, in its three different degrees—dynamic in the mineral matter, biological in the vegetable matter, and biotic in animal matter? Physical science teaches us that even life is a phenomenon of matter. There may be life without matter, I don't say there is not. It may be an entity; I don't say it is not. I only say it is only demonstrable to us as a phenomenon of matter.

It is well, then, gentlemen, that when we come to treat of all, or any, of the different forms or degrees of all the different diseases that man is heir to, either by hereditary transmission, traumatism, or idiopathicism, that we only know matter and its phenomena, and of it only can we treat—that is, we only know man anatomically and the functions of his organs and tissues.

I must warn you now, gentlemen, that it has become fashionable—as fashionable as evil-speaking, lying, slandering and bank robbing—for the most immoral portion of society to hold up their hands with an assumed holy horror, and denounce the teaching which I have now given to you as sceptical, malevolistic, infidel, and irreligious. But don't you trouble yourself about what these people say. It is not a question of religion at all, and, believe me, you can believe all this that I have just said, as a physical scientist, and much more, and yet be honorable Christian gentlemen, or honorable gentlemen without the prefix Christian—Jews, for example, who are certainly as honorable as Christians.

There are others, good men, who, under the false impression that the natural is antagonistic to the supernatural, about which they know so little, protest against physical science, and would arrest us in our search of nature's laws. Mistaking sentimental conversation for religion, they will not even study physical science, afraid it should disturb their sentimentalism.

I would have physical science, or natural experimental philosophy, the basis of medical education. I would have it practically studied, by observation, from nature. I would have it the basis of law, order and civilization. I would have all men to know all they possibly could of nature's laws, and live in obedience to them. I would have the fact taught that all the so-