

making on our race. No clime, environment, nationality or age is altogether free from the scourge. Infant and centenarian, pauper and prince, weakling and giant athlete, are trampled upon, or jostle each other in trying to find some elixir or "Eldorado" that may rescue from its remorseless grasp.

The second noticeable feature, and one that sheds a fierce light on the measure of our diagnostic skill, is the varied stages of the disease and physical conditions of these patients. It is hard to understand how the same climatic influences can reasonably meet such diverse requirements. Patients notice these extremes, become incredulous, hence the constant movement, each train bringing or taking away its quota.

Another impression that forces itself very strongly on the physician's attention, is the urgent need of an early recognition of pulmonary tuberculosis. It is a most lamentable as well as a most discreditable fact, that the initial symptoms and conditions in by far the larger percentage of cases, are overlooked or attributed to malaria, protracted cold, neurasthenia, etc. The insidious onset of this disease exposes one of the many vulnerable points in medical practice, viz., the superstitious worship we pay to so-called pathognomonic symptoms. These are largely myths, for it is the exception that any one sign is pathognomonic of a physical condition. How much more rational for the physician and advantageous for the patient, to have it done—to draw his conclusions from the results derived by all the methods of examination—verbal, visual, physical and pathological. Were it not for the number of errors one has committed himself and the number he has seen made by others, the tales patients tell of the varied "diagnoses" made in the early stages of their cases, would be incredible. Five or six eminent physicians diagnosing five or six different diseases in the same patient within three or four weeks. A few months later a gush of blood or the presence of bacilli puts to shame their boasted skill. It would be interesting to hear from some of our college professors of medicine, if they do not think there has been, since the discovery of the tubercle bacilli—using an expressive if not a technical term—a great "slump" in diagnostic skill, in regard to the detection of tuberculosis in the early stages. The disgrace, if it be such, cannot be rolled upon the shoulders of the youthful tyro, for the people who come to these far-distant resorts are mostly wealthy, and bring with them prescriptions bearing the initials of the masters. The contents of these become more mysterious with the light that subsequent events throw on these cases. That professor of medicine must have lived at a health resort, and there acquired much of what