

deemed necessary. In very few of his cases has there been any local recurrence. As to the examination of the patient Dr. Shepherd always stands behind her pressing the tumour against the chest wall and thus getting a better idea of the extent and consistency of the tumour. Many cases which have been looked upon as malignant have turned out to be cysts hyperdistended and devoid of fluctuation. The speaker's routine practice was to aspirate every tumour and it was astonishing how many proved to be cystic. He had never seen any bad results from this procedure. It was also a rule of his to advise removal of every solid tumour in women over thirty-five.

### THE POSITION OF THE OSTEOPATH.

The communication from Dr. Bristow, explaining the new law regulating the practice of medicine, shows us how a sect, whose entire fabric is based upon erroneous premises, may gain prominence and be recognized by the Legislature of the State as a body of earnest, conscientious practitioners, who are to be entrusted with the care and treatment of disease. The fact that the practice of medicine is not an exact science, has aided them in their contentions; no cult, however, based upon such false theories as those of osteopathy should be classified under the laws of the State with the other schools of medicine. The dividing fence between the regular school, the eclectic school and the school of homœopathy have in recent years been generally demolished, and the so-called practitioners of homœopathy and eclecticism have, almost without exception, adopted the therapeutic agencies of the older school of medicine in addition to their own.

Although the present bill recognizes a school of osteopathy—and such recognition we hold to be unfortunate—still it is the lesser of two evils. It makes it necessary for the individual to devote just as much time and study to obtain a license to practice osteopathy as it would to obtain a license to practice medicine. An osteopath then receives the degree of D.O., after having studied three or four years in a recognized school of osteopathy, and at the end of that time cannot prescribe for a patient, nor can he use drugs in any form; he can simply practice osteopathy. In other words, it destroys one of the principal advantages of osteopathy, namely: the ability to practice medicine or a branch of medicine without devoting a sufficient number of years to mastering the essentials of the science.

It is believed that this bill will do away with all the objectionable features of osteopathy, and it certainly will help greatly to control the practice of other forms of quackery in the State of New York.—*Long Island Medical Journal*.