

means stagnation and degeneration, and yet for decades men have graduated from our schools and colleges, have gone out to settle in our villages, towns and cities, without ever giving a thought about keeping up or reviving old friendships or forming new ones. These men so completely isolate themselves that were it not for their door plates or creaky signs their fellow practitioners would never know of their existence. Call on one of the more prominent physicians in any of our towns or cities and ask him about his confrères. How often the answer will be, "Well there are a lot of fellows, I don't know; They never attend a medical meeting and I have no chance of getting acquainted with them." This isolation is deplorable for it is the status of the rank and file, "the privates in our great army, the essential factor in the battle" that gives to our calling its status and influence. The public knows, or cares, very little for the great names in medicine, but it quickly forms an estimate of the worth, and dubs as "Doc" the man who is loose in morals and habits, illiterate and impure in language, antiquated and slovenly in his methods, or most respectfully salutes as Doctor, the physician of moral and temperate habits, refined and pure in language, scientific and skilful in his methods.

The reader may think the above a rather pessimistic view, but here are a few sentences from a recent address of Prof. Wm. Osler: "But let me say this of the public, it is rarely responsible for the failures in the profession. Occasionally a man of superlative merit is neglected, but it is because he lacks that most essential gift the knowledge how to use his gifts. The failure in 99% of the cases is in the man himself; he has not started right. The poor chap has not had the choice of his parents, or his education has been faulty, or he has fallen away to the worship of strange gods, Baal, or Arhtoreth, or worse still, Bacchus. But after all the killing vice of the young doctor is intellectual laziness. He may have worked hard at college but the years of probation have been his ruin. Without specific subjects upon which to work, he gets the newspaper or the novel habit and fritters his energies upon useless literature. There is no greater test of a man's strength than to make him mark time in the "stand and wait" years. Habits of systematic reading are rare and are becoming more rare, and five or ten years from his license, as practice begins to grow, may find the young doctor knowing less than he did when he started, and without any fixed educational purpose in life."

Now in practice, however important it may be to find the morbid condition, it is of more importance still to be able to suggest a line of treatment that will restore the patient to health again. We have