

instead of maintaining his uncouth, humbling position—galling to every high-minded man—to surrender his obstinacy and his independent notions, and once more rank and file with a time-honored association in Medicine. A few years since, many of our *Pioneers* were thus insultingly taunted by “regular” Medicine,—and simply because they thought the science still imperfect, and the practice dangerous, and were acting upon this belief.

Such a state of “Law and Medicine,” created a necessity for empiricism, to demonstrate the fallacies of Allopathy. Many men, with but a partial acquaintance with Medicine,—almost strangers to Science and Art in its practical details,—paraded their empirical claims before the people, and were freely patronized. Their success, when compared with the ordinary practice, did not justify the assumptions of the latter to scientific superiority. And from that hour to the present moment, their exclusive pretensions to Science, and its successful application in alleviating human sufferings, have commanded less confidence from those who have always decided the respective merits of those soliciting their patronage.

That is a country where freedom of thought is tolerated, and the people have learned to think and act for themselves, on the subject of Medicine, as well as on theological matters. Having witnessed the anti-republican tendencies of sectarian Physic,—its unwarrantable claims, and its entire devotion to party interests,—they repealed the unjust laws protecting one order, while detrimental to all others, and placed medical men more nearly on the ground of equality, hereafter to substantiate their claims to public trust through the medium of a successful practice. A similar revolution occurred in sister States, and in some of them greater changes followed than in their own. Colleges, based upon liberal principles, were chartered; and those who had been and were still successfully engaged in practice, and also their students, were heartily welcomed to partake of the benefits accruing from an impartial acquaintance with all the departments of Medicine.

And now, how changed the scene. Where, only a few years since, could not be found one who was well qualified, titled with the degree of Medicine can now be found many,—and those too in love with a liberal science, devoted to its practice, and demonstrating the superiority of Eclectic principles. The advantage which was gained by Hunkers years gone by, however, is still tenaciously retained. Old School Physic has been blest with rich endowments from the State, with which it has reared many magnificent