

of his dangerous condition, that he be not outed out of this world before he be provided for another.

Maxim VII.—*When he can keep life no longer in, he makes a fair and easy passage for it to go out.*—He giveth his attendance for the facilitating and assuaging of the pains and agonies of death. Yet, generally, it is death to a physician to be with a dying man.

Maxim VIII.—*Unworthy pretenders to physic are rather foils than stains to the profession.*—Such a one was that counterfeit who called himself “the Barron of Blackamore,” and feigned he was sent from the Emperor to our young King Henry VI., to be his principal physician. But, his forgery being discovered, he was apprehended, and executed in the Tower of London, *anno* 1426, and such the world daily swarms with. Well did the poets feign Aesculapius and Circe brother and sister, and both children of the sun; for, in all times, (in the opinion of the multitude), witches, old women, and impostors have had a competition with physicians. And commonly the most ignorant are the most confident in their undertakings, and will not stick to tell you what disease the gall of a dove is good to cure. He took himself to be no mean doctor, who, being guilty of no Greek, and being demanded why it was called a *hectic* fever; “Because,” saith he, “of an *hecking* cough which ever attended that disease.”

This maxim requires no gloss, yet a Valedictorian would do well to elaborate the idea, that unworthy pretenders to physic are but foils to set off the Good Physician, that the qualities of acuteness in observation, reliance upon that power which is not ourselves, conservatism in the employment of remedies, consideration for the poor, skilfulness and honesty, and carefulness in the details of treatment, a correctness of demeanour towards the great mystery of death, are yet as essential to the Good Physician as they were in the days of the worthy Fuller.

---

## Reviews and Notices of Books.

- A Practical Treatise on Nervous Diseases. By F. Savary Pearce, M.D., Professor of Nervous and Mental Diseases, Medico-Chirurgical College of Philadelphia; 401 pages, with coloured frontispiece, and ninety-one illustrations in the text. D. Appleton & Company, New York. Morang & Co., Toronto, 1904.

This book is admirably made, as all of Appleton's books are; the illustration is sumptuous, though many of the plates are familiar to readers of Butler's excellent book, published by the same firm. The first section is devoted to the anatomy of the nerve structures, the second to physiology, the third to chemistry, and then follows a consideration of