

ADVERTISING OPERATIONS.—We are constantly receiving notices clipped from newspapers in different parts of the country, containing accounts of operations performed by medical men. We do not suppose that any of these gentlemen are guilty of describing their own operations; yet we are at a loss to know how it is that many surgeons, both in cities and in the country, who stand deservedly high, in public and professional estimation, are never noticed by the members of the fourth estate, although they sometimes perform dozens of operations in the course of a twelvemonth? The code of medical ethics by which the regular profession is governed in this country, and also in the United States, is very explicit on this point. The clause referring to this matter, we quote as follows:—

“It is derogatory to the dignity of the profession to resort to public advertisements, or private cards, or handbills inviting the attention of individuals affected with particular diseases, publicly offering advice and medicine to the poor gratis, or promising radical cures; or to publish cases and operations in the daily prints, *or suffer such publications to be made*; to invite laymen to be present at operations, to boast of cures and remedies, to adduce certificates of skill and success, or to perform any similar acts. These are the ordinary practices of empirics, and are highly reprehensible in a regular physician.”

ACTION OF SUNLIGHT ON VIRUS.—We have somewhere seen a statement crediting a distinguished English physician with having made some interesting experiments on the power of sunshine to destroy poison. Having obtained some poison from the *Cobra* on ivory points, from London, he exposed them in a glass bottle to the sunlight; some of the points were protected by a paper wrapping, while a number were fully exposed. On the latter, or those having the benefit of the full sunlight this most deadly poison is said to have soon become harmless, while those protected by the wrapping retained their poison in all its fatal activity. This result agrees with the general experience and observation of those making use of vaccine virus on ivory points to any great extent, a very short exposure to the sunlight being sufficient to destroy their efficacy by neutralizing the vaccine.

SENSIBLE REMARKS.—An eminent physician at Dartmouth College, addressing the graduating Medical Class, on one occasion, began by remarking that “the science of medicine has been and is now a growth, and consequently has not yet reached perfection.” The main trouble with medicine is that man was born to die, not merely of old age, but of various diseases, at various stages of life. Recovery from an illness depends upon several conditions, with some of which the medical man who is called in, has nothing to do. He may be sent for too tardily. His advice may not be followed, and his prescriptions may be negligently dispensed, or altogether dispensed with. He cannot keep watch and ward by every bedside, to prevent nurses from dosing their victims into the grave. And, more than all, however much he may know of theory and practice, there will remain a great many things of which he is ignorant, and which can only be learned by life-long observation and experience, and which may be termed the unwritten language of medicine. His anxieties will necessarily at times be great.

THEORY OF CONTAGION.—If contagion consists, as claimed by Tyndall, of definite particles, sometimes floating in gas, or in the air, or in the liquids to drink; and that like organic seeds in the soil, the particles multiply themselves indefinitely in suitable media, the great probability being that the disease-producing facilities are living things—gaseous or liquid,—but solid, the treatment of the case will resolve itself sooner or later into a kind of *germicide* within and without the body—within the fluids and secretions of the body—without the noxious elements that surround it.—*President's Address, Can. Med. Ass'n.*

APPOINTMENTS.—Dr. Burland has been appointed House Surgeon to the Montreal General Hospital, and Dr. Bell assistant Surgeon. Mr. Matthews Duncan, of Edinburgh, has received an appointment at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London—the post vacated by Dr. Greenhalgh. Mr. McLeod, of Glasgow, has been appointed Surgeon to the Queen in Scotland, in place of Mr. Leitch. H. P. Yeomans, M.D., of Mount Forrest, to be Associate Coroner for the County of Wellington. T. S. Walton, M.D., of Parry Sound, to be Associate Coroner for the District of Parry Sound.

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