

made, on their part, it has continued to stand in the way, and to prevent that countenance to organic chemistry, by the medical profession, that otherwise would have been practically manifested.

The importance of organic chemistry being admitted, it does not necessarily follow that, before it can be made available for the cure of disease, the medical practitioner must enter the laboratory and serve an apprenticeship to a new art. This would be a discouraging position to assume. The discoveries that have been made are too recent, to be generally applicable to the institution of an appropriate curriculum of chemical study, for medical practice. Such a curriculum will undoubtedly be established, so soon as the mode of experimenting, now in progress, shall have been sufficiently matured, and the results be available, as a guide, to the requirements of a course of chemico-medical study. Even then, however, it is not to be supposed, that the exact calculations of the practised chemist will not continue to take precedence, in all medical formulæ. Many experiments, particularly in organic chemistry, are of a complicated and tedious nature, for which the general practitioner could neither find time nor convenience. In such cases, he must be satisfied to borrow the ascertained facts of the professional chemist; for the purpose of using them in his medical practice. If so, there is no reason why these ascertained facts should not be made available now, as well as afterwards. It is a great mistake, to think, that nothing can be done to place medicine on a scientific basis, before that a new generation of practitioners, with chemical certificates, shall have taken the place of the present. It is a misfortune that such a misunderstanding should have occurred; the more so, on account of its universal prevalence. If viewed in a proper light, the erroneous impression, thus formed, could be easily removed. And the sooner this is done the better it will be for the credit of the profession.

There is little comfort, in being reminded, by every circumstance connected with the administration of physic, that the man of education who can boast of fellowship with one or more chartered Faculties, is, after all, to a certain extent, on a par with the vendor of patent nostrums; and that the *pilula hydrargyri*, as a specific, is susceptible of no more satisfactory explanation, than the universal draught, which is warranted to be infallibly efficacious, in every possible case of disease, without distinction. It is mortifying to reflect, that a noble art should, thus, be degraded to a level with the vilest system of deception and commercial dealing. But there is no use continuing to expose defects and to express regrets, unless suitable means

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