

the heat it did in a natural state, before those poisons had been administered. Then the bleeding and blistering lessen the remainder so as to reduce the heat to the capacity of old age. It is the same thing no matter what age, from one hour old to an hundred years. When the heat is so far exhausted that the air is not sufficiently lightened by the heat to expand the adjoining air, the pressure becomes equalled, external and internal, the same as in the case of a drowned person. There is no difference as to age, sex, or denomination, so far as the practice is concerned; and so far as that goes to lessen the heat by bleeding, by fever powders, or by poison, all tend to lessen inward heat, and to diminish life in the same proportion; and when it is entirely extinguished, death follows as a natural consequence, and from the same cause, loss of heat, whatever it may be that puts out the fire. The putting out of the fire, or extinguishing inward or vital heat, is the cause of death.

All practitioners, therefore, may by this rule either condemn or justify themselves by looking back on their former practice, and asking themselves the question: "Have I cultivated the heat of my patients, to prolong their lives; or have I extinguished their heat, and thereby killed or destroyed them?" Is not this question fully answered? See how the lives of human beings are daily sacrificed, at all ages, from birth to death! Who, I would ask, is authorized to say in such a case, "The Lord gives, and the Lord taketh away, and blessed be the name of the Lord," when they are destroyed in this manner?

In everything that breathes, the breathing is from the same cause. Without heat, there is no breathing. But when heat is continually generated or evolved in a confined room, excepting at one avenue, as in the lungs, there must be breathing, or, what is the same, an inhaling of cold air, and an exhaling of oxygen or vapor from it. Every animal body has its lamp, in proportion to its bigness; and its continuing to burn is much owing to the one who trims or takes care of the lamp. If it be replenished with water instead of oil, and with an icicle for a wick, it is like the method in which the doctors trim the lamps of their patients. Taking