

confers everywhere in the hope that they will all consider it both a privilege and a duty to give their best aid to make these meetings successful: *we believe it will fully repay them.*

"I hold every man a debtor to his profession, from the which, as men of course do seek to receive countenance and profit, so ought they of duty to endeavor themselves, by way of amends, to be a help and ornament thereto."

THE profession of medicine has often been reproached with its irreligiousness. That—as a positive criticism—was rather in past days than in present. It is a marked feature of modern days, that in religion as in other matters, men are judged by their practical conduct in every-day life. When this standard is adopted, we confess to an opinion that no class of men stands higher than the medical profession.

The amount of gratuitous work they do and are willing to do when their self-sacrifice is deserved, is greater we think, than that of any other class of men. If their professions are less, and their emotional religious expressions more rare than in the case of some others, it is, we think, an altogether desirable thing that there should exist a class of men who pre-eminently appreciate the difference in value between a symptom and a sign. Many such thoughts as the above came to our mind after an inspection of several of our so-called religious periodicals of the day.

We should not perhaps expect that they should have so nearly reached perfection as to exhibit only one 'weak point,' but it is only one weak point that we will now refer to. This is their shameful disfigurement with advertisements of quack remedies. The statements presented in these advertisements are mostly *lies*, calculated to deceive the ignorant and unwary. It is well known how extensively many of them succeed. By their presence they are so far endorsed by the papers printing them.

There are always some religious journals which are sufficiently particular in this matter. Most, however, lamentably and egregiously fail to realize in their 'ad' columns the principles which are freely enough professed and urged in other parts. These public standard-bearers themselves fail to sustain thorough practical tests. This position is not perhaps evident to the public in general, who are largely deceived by the untrue statements; but it forms a serious blot in the eyes of the more intelligent people, who know the true nature of the substances advertised, and of the methods by which they are impressed upon the notice of simple people.

IN another column a correspondent touches upon a very important question, namely, the relations between doctors, druggists, and patients. A druggist gains everything from the friendly interest of a doctor. Whilst the doctor often recommends a particular druggist, the druggist, it is well enough known, does not hesitate to assume the functions of a physician, to indulge in counter prescribing, and thereby certainly, to annul any rightful expectancy of the active friendliness of the medical man. It is a question if physicians are not foolishly pathetic and careless about this matter. In at least one American city, the doctors seeing that they were simply playing into the hands of the druggists, while the latter usurped freely the part of the physician, came to an energetic determination to recommend no druggists who did not clearly refuse to prescribe. The result was that one druggist who carried his worthy determination so far as to dismiss instantly a clerk who had, against orders, recommended a certain medicine, was the most successful druggist in the city, the medical men gladly helping him who gave a due respect to them. We recommend this subject to the careful consideration of medical men and druggists, and would suggest the advisability of the former indicating at no distant day to the latter their opinions and intentions in the matter.

CORRIGENDUM—In the last issue of the NEWS, a printer's error made us give a wrong statement of fees allowed medical witnesses in courts of law in the United Kingdom. The correct statement is, that a fee of one guinea is allowed for every day's attendance at Supreme or County Court trials, with travelling expenses, and a fee of half a guinea at a Police Magistrates' Court.

### *Notes and Comments.*

THERE is nothing a woman likes better than to get hold of a sick man who likes to try remedies.—*Atchison Globe.*

DR. HUXLEY, son of the eminent lecturer, is about to marry one of the nurses in St. Bartholomew's Hospital. She turns out to be a lady of wealth and culture, who had become a nurse from choice, not necessity.

DR. A. JACOBI, in addressing the New York County Medical Society, the other day, observed that many of the ancients believed the liver to be the seat of the soul, and, he added "they were pretty clear-headed men, too." It is at least a certainty that the condition of the liver has influenced many a man's daily walk.—*Times & Register.*

DR. ALFRED C. SMITH, of Newcastle, New Brunswick, has recently been reappointed a government commissioner in leprosy for the northeastern provinces of Canada that are