

conducted to one of several doors upon which was affixed the name of Dr. Macdonald.

The hospital doctor was seated at a small desk, writing. He immediately arose and came towards his visitors with a freedom of manner and a welcoming smile which brought assurance to Charlie Roberts. Without any preliminary questioning—for all parties understood what the boy was there for—the doctor asked him to remove his garments. Nothing loth, Charlie complied. Weight, height, chest, and abdominal measurements were taken, each being inscribed upon a white card. Then the external organs were inspected, palpated, and their condition written down. This concluded the physical examination. When he had resumed his clothing, Charlie thought this was not so bad after all.

The doctor had given a book to William Roberts to read while he examined the son, thus serving the double purpose of enlightening the father as to the education of his son, and relieving the son of any embarrassment he might experience in disrobing and being examined by a stranger. Upon the fly-leaf the father read:

*Issued by and under the sole authority of the State Board of Health, as a concise and uniform exposition of the phenomenon of sex, and containing the necessary information all boys should know of the function and uses of their generative organs, as well as the care of the same during the whole period of their lives.*

Having read the book, he laid it on the table. He had ascertained it had been prepared by the State Board of Health, and had been sanctioned with the approval of the State Medical Society. He was thus assured the best medical thought, observation, and experience of practical and scientific men in every department of medicine had been brought to bear upon the proper care, training, and education of the adolescent boy between the ages of twelve and sixteen years. He now fully believed the doctor was the right person to take his boy and conduct him into and through the new life, upon the threshold of which he loitered. Scarcely had he laid the book down when the doctor, having finished the physical examination, returned to his desk, motioning the boy to a seat by its side.

"I'm going to read this little book to you now, my boy, and explain it to you, but before doing so I want you to promise me you will not read anything else upon the subject that you might see in newspaper and magazine advertisements, or which might be given or sent you by any other person—will you promise?"