

ways. The profession has been profoundly modified from within by the progress due to the introduction of the scientific method, and from without by the tremendous alteration of society at large, of which it forms a part. So let us meet in this section with the true scientific spirit, approaching all subjects with open minds, willing to receive knowledge from every source and whatever be the medium through which it comes. We appeal to you to bring to this section the results of your work, and we pledge you a fair hearing, kindly criticism, and, we trust, helpful suggestion. This work is designed to open a new field of practical medicine to the profession at large. It is designed to map out practical applications of chemistry to the daily work of physicians, and to encourage those with special knowledge to so clearly describe and define practical chemical reactions that they may be useful to the physician untrained in theoretical chemistry. —Medical Times.

SCIENCE AND LONGEVITY.

Science, we all know, is an exacting mistress, and those who follow her have few rewards beyond the joy of her service which is also the service of humanity. But if we may believe the eminent astronomer, Professor Holden, science offers to her votaries certain concrete advantages as well, notably its undoubted tendency to prolong the lives of her followers. Prof. Holden gives several reasons for this, but he neglects one which we venture to think most potent, namely, the habit of contemplation and detachment from petty mundane worries which scientific men share in common with men of letters and philosophers. The magnitude of their pursuits dwarfs the petty cares of daily life into insignificance, and here, as elsewhere, "it is worry that kills." Professor Holden says:—"It is not a little remarkable that men of science, astronomers among them, are particularly long-lived. The average longevity for men is about thirty-three years. Someone has had the patience to determine the average age of some seventeen hundred astronomers and mathematicians, and it turns out

to be sixty-four years. That is, astronomers live nearly twice as long as men in general. According to Quetelet, artists have an average life of fifty-nine years; literary men of sixty-five years; scientific men, of seventy-four years. We are here dealing with selected classes of persons, all of whom are longer-lived than the average, and among them men of science are pre-eminent. The statistics from astronomers are really noteworthy; of one thousand astronomers no less than five hundred and ninety-six lived to seventy years; two hundred and sixty from seventy to seventy-nine; one hundred and twenty-six from eighty to eighty-nine; fifteen from ninety to ninety-nine; three over one hundred. According to life insurance tables, out of one thousand persons who have reached the age of eighteen years, only fifty-six reach the age of seventy; but more than ten times that number of astronomers survive. It is not difficult to assign good reasons why men of science should, in general, live far longer than the average man, or longer than artists, for example. In general they are in possession of incomes which, though they may be small, are tolerably certain. Their lives are usually orderly and calm. Scientific controversy may make the blood run quicker sometimes; perhaps they are needed to counteract a tendency to too much contemplation. But I think no one can fail to be surprised at the foregoing statistics. If one desires to live long upon this earth he is likely to gain his end by following science as a profession."—Humanitarian.

PRIOR REMOVAL OF OVARIES GROUND FOR ANNULING MARRIAGE.

The exceedingly novel and important question was raised in the case of *Wendel vs. Wendel*, whether the husband is entitled to the annulment of a marriage contracted without knowledge on his part that his wife was physically incapable of conception as the result of a surgical operation, such as the removal of her ovaries, known to her, but concealed from him.