

One cause of this sad constitutional degeneracy, may be attributed to the educational and practical influences exerted by the medical profession. We ask their forbearance if we state this conviction, for we would stand in the front rank, with those who use legitimate arguments, to maintain its respectability. We would laurel it with honors, for it has toiled unceasingly for the benefit of the race. But we would not close our senses to facts, nor lull our convictions in the consciousness of glory. Then, has it not, while endeavoring to assuage the woes of humanity, employed such remedies as are calculated to produce temporary relief, at the *expense* of permanent benefit? To me, it is a sad contemplation, that they have inculcated and strenuously advocated the use of those remedies, whose present effects are apparently beneficial, but whose ultimate influence is disastrous. We do not propose a discussion of this proposition, for the evidences of its truthfulness are everywhere furnished.

This, indeed, is somewhat explanatory of the reasons inducing us to engage our talents in the cause of Medical Reform,—at the same time advocating the expediency of the physical education of the masses. Vain would be the hope of accomplishing a physical renovation of man's nature, while unable to offer efficacious remedies, as substitutes for the depleting, destroying means now so popularly used for the cure of his diseases. We must labor, first to uproot these evils—invalidate their use,—to destroy that blind confidence which has so long reposed upon their imaginary merits.—In other remedies we find a greater congeniality to the constitution. We have those more virtuous and potent, which do not entail lasting, evil consequences.

But while we assert this, we are not unmindful of the fact, that if a correct knowledge of the functions of the organs of our bodies obtained with society, it would greatly diminish the demands upon the medical profession. So let it be. Let every intelligent member of community acquire a knowledge of the conditions of life and health in his own body, and the services of the medical profession will be seldom required. Then we do most earnestly commend to mankind the benefits which accrue from a proper physical education. We have witnessed with ecstatic pleasure, the introduction of Physiological works into our common schools. We have beheld with delight, the influence shed abroad upon community, through the instrumentality of the press.—But these means alone are inadequate for the accomplishment of, so great and glorious an object. To add our moiety of influ-