

be, I cannot say; but one might consider himself safe in presuming that the book really is a good one, when a respectable New York physician is found willing to take upon himself the editorship, and the eminent publishing firm of the Putnams assumes the responsibility of its reprint. Two such parties we should certainly deem better qualified to form a correct judgment in regard to the needs of the public, and the value of the production, than the very self-complacent personage who so summarily dismisses it with a flippant fling at the *British Workman*. But what good grounds exist for the assumption our critic so conceitedly enunciates? If his contemptuous expressions refer to the skilled artizans of Great Britain, I can assure him the individuals aspersed will generally be found to compare favorably with the same class in the United States in point of education and intelligence. National Schools of Design, local Atheneums and Mechanic's Institutes, have placed within their reach the means of intellectual elevation; nor have they been slow to turn to good account the educational facilities thereby afforded. As handicraftsmen, too, they are the better workmen, more thoroughly acquainted with their several trades,—the system of protracted apprenticeships, prevalent in Europe, tending to make them so. Too often the very self-satisfied spirit which causes impatience of being "preached at," (as exhibited in the article under notice)—a defiant self-sufficiency which resists submission to instruction, and is intolerant of restraint, subordination or control, for anything like a reasonable period of time, causes the American learner to start as a full-fledged mechanic before he has even fairly acquired the rudiments of his business. If, however, it is the unskilled laborer of the Old World who is intended to be characterized as "ignorant, poor and dirty," it cannot be denied that "work people" of this order, in all countries, to a greater or less extent, exhibit these unhappy features,—though it is not to be supposed that Dr. Hope, or any other professional man, could reasonably anticipate securing among such a very extensive audience.

Yet, a third aspect of the case suggests itself; and the probabilities would seem to be largely in its favor. The writer of the unpleasant language quoted, has an appearance of seeking to convey the idea that the mass of "American readers" are exceptionally well informed in regard to "hygiene and anatomy, as com-