

DR. FOOT'S

# Hair Restorer

[Entered at the New York Post Office as Second-class Matter.]

Vol. XII.]

NOVEMBER, 1887.

[No. 11.]

Labouchere, writing to the World of proposed reform in women's dress, says, "I have always wondered that serious ladies do not set more store by this branch of progress. If I were a woman I would much rather have a pair of trousers than a University degree."

Crabs and other inferior forms of animal life have often been observed to part with portions of their bodies or members to avoid being captured as prey. Some have considered this a voluntary action of self-mutilation, but careful observations tend rather to prove that it is merely the result of reflex action.

A ready expedient for the relief of the distressing cough occasioned in children in cases of whooping cough is this: drop oil of turpentine on the pillow where the fumes will be inhaled while sleeping; and during the convulsive cough, hold a handkerchief before the child's face with fifteen or twenty drops on it.

A simple treatment highly recommended for cases of acute tonsillitis is effected by moistening the tip of the index finger, dipping the finger in powdered bi-carbonate of soda and then rubbing the powder gently over the tonsil. Repeat this every five minutes for half an hour and then once every hour for the rest of the day.

French physicians have been of late experimenting largely with mesmerism or what they now call "hypnotic suggestion" and one of them has applied it to so small an affair as curing a child of the habit of sucking its thumbs. The Medical Record suggests that a better use for such a remedy would be in the more serious and evil habits to which children are prone.

Time is Money.—Patient (to young doctor): Why do you charge me so much, doctor? I had a similar trouble last year, and Dr. Pellett cured me for half this amount. Young Doctor: How long did it take him to cure you? Patient: Three days. Young Doctor: Well, I've been working on your case for nearly two weeks. You can't expect to get two weeks' work for a three-day pay.

The Atlanta Medical and Surgical Journal is authority for the report that a Georgia surgeon found a boy with two heads, one at each extremity of the spinal column. One of them—the one where the tail ought to be, had a scalp which gave growth to long curls and outlines of the nose, mouth and eyes well marked, but as it gave the boy pain, it was successfully removed by a surgical operation.

Judge: Of course, you have an excuse ready? Prisoner: I have your honor. I was full, but it was for medical purposes. Whisky is good for snake bites. Judge: Were you bitten by a snake? Prisoner: No; but, your honor, 'an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.' Judge; I see, I see. But you should have confined yourself to the ounce. I fine you \$10 for prescribing medicine without a diploma.

Prof. Elliot Cowes at the annual commencement of the National Medical College in Washington gave an address advocating the equal claims of women to all the fruits of modern civilization. It was so bold and fair a presentation of the matter that the too conservative faculty of the institution omitted to publish it. Prof. Cowes therefore resigned his position and has published the address in pamphlet form.

The Hygienic Council of Paris instituted an analysis of hair dyes and cosmetics only to learn that all so-called harmless and purely vegetable hair dyes are in fact poisonous. Chemical compounds of lead, zinc and mercury are found to be the basis of most of the Parisian face beautifiers.

The last Legislature enacted a law forbidding druggists to refill more than once, prescriptions containing opium or morphine, except with a verbal or written order from a physician. The sale of opiates has for a long time been restricted or limited to the extent that the prohibitionists proposed to stop the traffic in alcoholics, but it is an open secret that prohibition does not prohibit, so far as opiates are concerned. The "habitués" of this drug find no difficulty in supplying their wants as long as their money lasts.

In Sweden and Norway the attempt has been made to meet the alcoholic problem by what is called the "Gothenburg system." No liquors can be sold excepting at places where good food and non-alcoholic drinks are also kept on hand, and while the dealer is permitted to make the usual profit on the latter, he is not allowed to make any profit on the liquor he sells. This regulation anticipates that dealers will therefore discourage the sale and use of alcoholic drinks by endeavoring to make more profits on the others.

Dr. Seglas, of Paris, has remarked that there is an unfortunate tendency to intermarriage among the members of neurotic families. He finds an unhealthy attraction which draws persons with neurotic tendencies to each other by a sort of community of ideas and sentiments. He finds that these influences lead to marriages of consanguinity "and thus create a convergent heredity of the worst description in the descendants." After all, does this discovery mean anything more than that birds of a feather flock together?

The opponents of vaccination in England are pressing for another Parliamentary inquiry by commission into the subject of vaccination and the fact of its compulsory enforcement by law. In some towns of England already, the majority of the officials having this matter in charge are opposed to vaccination, so that the law fails to be enforced in those parts. The registrar general's statistics show that during five years ending 1885, 283 deaths were officially ascribed to vaccination, 271 of them being children under one year of age.



"Oh, doctor, come at once, Johnnie has swallowed a mouse."  
"Then the best thing you can do is to get him to swallow a cat."

—From Medical Sense and Nonsense.

## Medical Topics.

### The Late Prof. Strauss' Review of the Field of Medicine.

Those who keep up with the daily news will remember that near the close of September a cablegram announced the death of Dr. G. L. M. Strauss, a savant well-known to scientists and people of literary tastes. The following review of the field of medicine is from an unpublished manuscript received a few years ago by Dr. Foote, Sr. It was originally written as a preface to the English edition of "Plain Home Talk, embracing Medical Common Sense." If, as was intended at that time, stereotyped plates had been used in London for the special English edition the manuscript might have been so used; but for English publishers it was decided best to continue to furnish the work in printed sheets, and the length of Prof. Strauss' article rendered it hardly suitable for the entire edition printed for use on this as well as on the other side of the Atlantic. The death of the author of this remarkable confession in regard to the shortcomings of medical men as he observed them, brings the long unused manuscript to mind and it is with pleasure we lay it before our readers:

#### PROF. STRAUSS' PREFACE.

*In nomine,* I must crave permission to explain briefly how I came to volunteer to write this Preface to the new English edition of Doctor Edward B. Foote's "Plain Home Talk."

Up to some thirty months or so ago Dr. Foote was personally unknown to me, nor had I read a line of his books, though I had, indeed, for years past heard much of him and his great success in his professed Common Sense treatment of an almost all-embracing variety of human ailments. With a pretty long and not altogether uneventful professional career of my own lying behind me, I continue to take a warm interest in all genuine *bonâ fide* progress of the most important of all sciences—Physic.

But I must confess that my experiences in that noble science and with its professors and leaders have rather tended to predispose me to look with sceptic suspicion upon all claims and claimants to exceptional success in the treatment of diseases.

I may conscientiously aver that I have from an early period of my life striven hard and with honest endeavors to acquire and practice the beneficent healing art. I have been privileged to sit at the feet of many a reputed Gamaliel of the Æsculapian science, I studied Physic under the great leaders and teachers of the most renowned schools and systems of my time, in Germany as well as in France,—and in many a Civil and in many a Military Hospital has the sad opportunity been most profusely afforded me to see daily and hourly proof of the hopeless helplessness of the vaunted *ars medendi*, and to find, to my most bitter grief and deepest humiliation, that most of the fancied theoretic lore I had acquired turned out in the crucible of attempted practical application like unto dry bones, sapless chips, withered leaves, and burnt-out ash.

I may say that I have been pretty well grounded in the history of Physic from its earliest known period. In

my mind's eye I have walked with the *δαίμας Ἰγρήρ* of the remotest medical antiquity, the God-like Æsculapius, fabled to have stitched together and restored to life and motion the *disrupta membra* of Hippolytus. I have in imagination attended that Father of all Physic on his curative missions, and much and often have I marveled how it could possibly have come to pass, even in the course of ages, that this true healer's simple sanative apparatus of the she-goat and dog—the former to soothe internal disorders with her milk, the latter to lick sores whole—should have expanded into the many thousand cubic feet of the apothecary's shop, and the formidable arsenal of deadly appliances that had come to form the medical stock-in-trade in my time.

#### MEDICINE IN YE OLDEN TIME.

Of another father of Physic, the Prussian Æsclepiades, I had read how he based his healing system simply upon a frugal vegetable diet, and total abstinence from strong drink, with friction of the skin, cleanliness, and plenty of exercise; and how yet he was most successful in his treatment of human ills, and kept himself in health and vigor up to an advanced old age, when an unlucky fall put a premature end to his beneficent life. And the system of Hippocrates, the second founder of Physic,—was it not chiefly based upon simple dietetics? Yet it answered indifferently well for some two thousand years; for Galenus the founder of the Pergamese School of Medicine, who lived and taught in the second century after Christ, was simply the collector and compiler of the medical lore of the Greeks, from which he elaborated his humoral theory. Galenus was no doubt an able man and a skillful healer, albeit not over-enlightened, as he admitted incantations and spells and charms among remedial agencies. His humoral theory, imported subsequently *en bloc* by Avicenna and Rhazes into the Arabian School of Physic founded by them, kept its ground unassailed and unchallenged for thirteen centuries and more, to the days of Paracelsus, in fact, who dealt it the first formidable blow, forcing in the thin edge of the wedge which Van Helmont, drove home, in the beginning of the seventeenth century, when the Pergamo-Arabian School of Medicine, with its venerably ancient humoral theory and all its corollaries and appendages, had to go to the wall, and the more rational chemical theory reigned in its stead—to be assailed and modified and supplanted in its turn by other still more 'rational' theories, warranted quite unassailable and unimpeachable until assailed and overthrown in their turn.

#### FIERCE CONTENTIONS OF THE PROFESSORS.

It cannot of course be my intention here to write an essay upon medical systems and theories; I only crave permission to refer to them in so far as they may serve to illustrate my personal experience and the position in which I stand to Dr. Foote and my connection with this Preface to the English edition of that physician's "Plain Home Talk."

I am quite old enough to remember the fierce contention long waged between the staid professors and leaders of "the schools then in possession," and the followers of Brown and the disciples of Broussais, with the high-flown, high-wrought, and high-falutin theory of stheric and astheric disturbances of the equilibrium of health of the one, and the, if possible, still more recon-dite and artificial, and infinitely more mischievous

supposed broad distinction between the apparently so diametrically antagonistic principles of contraria and similia was a distinction without much of a real difference, being after all rather a question of dosology than aught else, as a few familiar instances may serve to show. Common salt applied dry to mucous membranes acts as a strong irritant, whilst in dilute solution it is a soothing sedative; concentrated acids curdle albumen, whilst in proper dilution they act as resolvents upon coagulated white of egg. Certain poisons in minute doses and dilute form act as simple stimulants on the brain, whilst in larger doses and more concentrated form they may bring on paralysis of the cerebral organ—and many more illustrations might be adduced to the same effect.

This, however, is a digression.

I gave Homœopathy a fair and honest trial, simply dropping infinitesimals—and I discovered that wholesale generalization will not do in the treatment of diseases, and that the true science and art of Physic consists of something very considerably more than the mere semi-mechanical compiling of bare symptomatological catalogues. In brief, I found the vaunted new medical creed and doctrine lamentably wanting in the balance of practical experience; and so I was led in the end to forsake the exercise of Physic as an ungrateful occupation, and to take to pursuits less fraught with danger and inconvenience to my fellowmen. Now, with these notions of mine, it was but natural, I think, that, as I have stated at the outset, I should feel rather disposed to look with sceptic suspicion upon all claims and claimants to exceptional success in the treatment of diseases. I must once more observe here that at that time Dr. Foote was personally unknown to me, and that I had never seen a line of his medical writings.

#### HE BECOMES ACQUAINTED WITH DR. FOOTE'S PRACTICE.

Now it so fell out that a young friend of mine, who had heard of Dr. Foote, and who had unsuccessfully tried the ministrations of some of our most highly reputed Doctors in a delicate case, was induced at last to consult the famous New York Physician. I must confess it was not at my suggestion, at least, if not absolutely against my advice that he did so.

He showed me the Doctor's letter in reply, and placed in my hands the remedial agents sent over to him from America. Well, the letter and the remedies—powerful agents compressed into the very smallest compass—staggered me considerably. Although an unsuccessful practitioner, if you will, I knew quite enough of my profession to see and understand that this American Doctor was a man who thoroughly knew what he was about, and that his practice was really based upon the great sound principle of Common Sense. My young friend recovered speedily and completely under Dr. Foote's treatment by correspondence. It is a homely old saying that the proof of the pudding is in the eating. Dr. Foote's success in this case impressed me rather favorably; it even led me to advise some other suffering friends of mine to apply to the New York Doctor. The result was equally favorable in every case.

#### HE READS PLAIN HOME TALK.

I now for the first time procured a copy of Dr. Foote's "Plain Home Talk" and read it carefully through—

indeed, over and over again, and the more and the oftener I perused the Doctor's "Plain Home Talk" upon Disease and its causes, prevention and cure, the stronger the impression grew on my mind that here I had met at last with a true healer—an effective redresser of Nature's wrongs. This impression was confirmed and strengthened when I had the much coveted pleasure of meeting Dr. Foote face to face—and conversing with him exhaustively upon the subject dearest to his heart, and engrossing all his thoughts, faculties and talents: the relief of human suffering. This was some years ago, upon the occasion of a visit which the Doctor made to the "old country."

It was, in a great measure at least, upon my advice that Dr. Foote decided to publish a special edition of his "Plain Home Talk" for the use and guidance of Englishmen and Englishwomen—which I now beg leave to introduce to the fair notice of the British Public, fully convinced that all who will read the book with a candid mind and unbiassed judgment, and with the honest intention of profiting to the fullest extent by the sage lessons and sound advice upon the most important questions of life and health, so intelligently and exhaustively conveyed in every chapter of the work, will reap rich reward.

"Plain Home Talk" may fairly be described as a veritable "Enchiridion Medicum": a Compendium of sound advice upon the preservation of health and the proper treatment of every ill and ailment our poor human flesh is heir to, conveyed in plain homely language that addresses itself with straightest directness to the clear intelligence and understanding of all sensible men and women.

#### HIS OPINION OF THE WORK.

From the first line of the Author's own Preface to the last passus in the book the work is replete with the very highest sense, Common Sense, to wit, that most desirable commodity which the Author truly—albeit somewhat bitterly perhaps—declares to be held at a discount, especially in the profession of Physic, where everything is proverbially ignored that has not the mustiness and dustiness of antiquity and incomprehensibility to recommend it to the favorable notice of the "learned." The Author proceeds to characterize, rather felicitously I think, Medical Works in general as heterogeneous compounds of vague ideas and equally vague jaw-breaking words, in which the *dead* languages are largely employed to treat of *living* subjects. Progress, says Dr. Foote, is fully admitted to be possible and real in every branch of art and science and human lore—except in Medicine, in which it would appear the beaten old track must be stolidly pursued, although it has been over and over again even superabundantly proved and demonstrated to the meanest capacity, that the beaten old track is altogether the wrong road, and leads to perdition. Ay, he who would strike out a new path for himself runs the risk of being dubbed by staid medical orthodoxy an empiric—if not an impudent and ignorant quack! However, the dread of this has clearly no terror for Dr. Foote, who says he is content to bear the vaporing denunciation of antiquated unreasoning and unreasonable Medical Bigotry. He cares not for personal renown or popularity. His chief aspiration is to strive to promote to the best of his ability and power the physical and moral well-being of the great human family.

hearing from Mr. Depew, without whom the dedication of anything seems to lack something; but he said nothing and seemed glad of it.

#### THE BANQUET AT DELMONICO'S.

In Delmonico's great gilt room on the evening of September 29th, says the *N. Y. Daily Times*, "there gathered some 200 men of medicine to celebrate the greatest day in the history of the College of Physicians and Surgeons since the day in 1807 when it was founded. It was the first dinner of the fall and winter season. Chauncey M. Depew was there to eat the first American public banquet he has had since his return from Europe. He made a speech and the 200 doctors vied with each other to keep him in good health for the effort. Here is an outline of what Dr. Depew said:

"No one could have attended the ceremonies this afternoon, heard the admirable addresses, looked into the faces of the Alumni and joined in the enthusiasm and applause, without breathing the university atmosphere and feeling like an Alumnus of your college. Every man of middle age whose family physician is one of your graduates, has attested in crucial tests his devotion to your college. He has time and again shed his life-blood in serene confidence in your practitioners and their theories. He has time and again swallowed the most virulent of mineral and vegetable poisons to prove his loyalty, and his life has been at your service whenever you chose to take it. In England this summer I found that the medical theory of the hour was that all the ill's flesh is heir to come from eating and drinking, and the only panacea for perfect health is to give them up. In view of my public duties during the banquet season I have rejected the advice, though had under the most expensive conditions, of my London doctor.

"Every citizen who loves New York wants that she should be not only the greatest city but the real metropolis of the Western Hemisphere. It is not enough that she is the centre of its business and credit and financial power, but here ought to be the sources of intellectual activity. The endowment of the College of Physicians and Surgeons and the equipment which has followed makes New York without a rival for medical education and progress, and the rest must follow if our commercial spirit is as wise as it is prosperous. When your college reached Twenty-third street and halted, while the city swept on, you would have fallen behind, perhaps been paralyzed, had not the Vanderbilt gift brought you abreast of the city's growth in wealth.

In the older States there are colleges enough. The rich man who founds a new one to perpetuate his name does no good and wastes his money. The endowment of the colleges with ages and traditions in themselves a liberal education, helps us to obtain the best education and intellectual life. William H. Vanderbilt appreciated this, and selected for his benefaction the oldest medical school in the city. His object was to so appropriate his money that without regard to the perpetuation of his name New York should have the best medical college in the world."

#### HOW THE BUILDING LOOKS AS DESCRIBED BY THE TRIBUNE.

"As it stands, the college is one of the best equipped institutions of its kind in the world. Mr. Vanderbilt's endowment was \$500,000, the site cost \$200,000, his

sons gave many thousands more for the clinic, and his daughter and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Sloane, have poured out money like water to make the maternity hospital perfect and free in perpetuity. The buildings themselves, for there are three of them, occupy the western half of the city block bounded by Ninth and Tenth aves., Fifty-ninth and Sixtieth streets. The other half of the block is taken up with the Church of the Paulist Fathers. The college building occupies the eastern half of the plot and fronts on Fifty-ninth St., facing Roosevelt Hospital. It is shaped something like the letter H—that is to say, a southern wing on Fifth-ninth street is connected by a middle portion with a northern wing facing on Sixtieth street, the area of the whole being over 15,000 square feet. The Vanderbilt Clinic and the Sloane Maternity Hospital occupy the Tenth ave. front of the plot, one at the Fifty-ninth street corner, the other on the Sixtieth street corner, each connected with the other and with the college proper by covered passages. All the buildings are of red brick faced with white stone, low and massive-looking, and of excellent material and workmanship throughout. A broad asphalt pavement is being laid all around the plot, down to which from the doorways run flights of white stone steps, breaking the line of the low brick stone-capped wall which separates the grounds from the street. Returning to the main entrance of the college on Fifty-ninth street the first thing to strike the visitor is an immense bronze plate let into the brick work, bearing this inscription:

THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS,  
CHARTERED 1807.  
OCCUPIED THIS LAND AND BUILDING, THE GIFT OF  
WILLIAM HENRY VANDERBILT,  
1887.

Passing through the gracefully arched main entrance, one finds himself in a well-lighted hallway, so polished, glistening, long and straight that it serves as a sort of telescope to focus every eye at once on a fine bronze bust of Mr. Vanderbilt, which occupies a pedestal at the far end of the hall facing the door, and brought into full relief against the white wall. The floor of this hall is inlaid with small tiles, the sides are paneled with white marble, and on either side set into the wall are tablets of polished yellow Scotch marble.

The Fifty-ninth street front is occupied by the small rooms of the secretary and clerk and Dr. John C. Dalton. A lower lecture room below, built on the same plan, seats 450. Excellent accommodation is afforded for the museum and the "Swift Physiological Cabinet."

This last was endowed by D. Smith, of this city, in memory of his brother, Dr. F. Smith, who was graduated from the college in 1857. A large room, walled all around with glass and mahogany cabinets, displays and at the same time guards these valuable adjuncts to study admirably. Passing over to the wing facing on Sixtieth street the visitor finds most of the space here given up to laboratories. The laboratories of the students and of the alumni, the departments of physics and chemistry, class rooms for instruction in normal histology and pathological anatomy, special laboratories for students in bacteriology and microscopy, rooms for experimental work of many kinds, a perfectly arranged photographic gallery, some small private rooms for the directors and the janitor's quarters, fill the three stories which constitute this wing.

Comfortable and convenient waiting and dressing rooms, lavatories, etc., for the students' and attendants' rooms are provided. Electricity everywhere will shed a brilliant light, though gas also has been put in so as to be provided for any emergency. The systems of heating and ventilation are considered to be admirable. Large revolving steam fans in the basement draw in the out-door air and force it through distributing tubes into each room in the building. In the apertures through which the pure air is let into the rooms are placed coils of the steam-heating pipes, so that the pure air may also be warmed to any desired temperature.

## PROGRESS IN MEDICINE.

PERHAPS there is nothing in current literature which will better impress one with the progress that is being made in medicine, than the matter to be found on those pages of this issue immediately following the first page items. First, the reader is introduced to a remarkable manuscript left by a distinguished man who has recently died. PROF. G. L. M. STRAUSS, M.D., enjoyed a world-wide reputation as a scientist, writer and translator and was especially well-known to literary and artistic circles in London, England, where he lived, and where he recently died at the advanced age of nearly ninety years. We do not know his age exactly. His death was announced in cablegrams to the New York papers in the latter part of September and some sketches of the career of this noted savant were published on this side of the Atlantic. At the time we met PROF. STRAUSS when on a visit to Europe in 1879, he was a well-preserved man of over eighty years of age. He was book reader for the large publishing house of the Tinsley Bros. Those who are not acquainted with the terms used in publishing concerns may not know just what a "book reader" is. We will explain that it was his province to examine the manuscripts handed in for publication and to decide on those which were worthy of being issued at the publisher's expense. We called upon the Tinsley Bros. and were then introduced to PROF. STRAUSS. He seemed to know all about us, and nothing could exceed the cordial attention he paid to us while we remained in London. On several occasions we dined together. It was a great satisfaction to us to find that a man of his age and experience, one who had had every opportunity as a medical student, as a surgeon in the French army, and finally wide experience in private practice, should be so captivated with our publication "Plain Home Talk, embracing Medical Common Sense." PROF. STRAUSS himself had been an extensive contributor to medical literature and was the well-known English translator of Liebig's great works. Beside all this scholarly capacity our venerable friend bore the appearance of a remarkable personage. His classical features were enlivened by a brilliant eye which would have afforded a study for a physiognomist like Simms, especially when he was engaged in social conversation or scientific discussion. He was a resident of what is called the "Charter House," an elegant place set apart by the Queen for elderly gentlemen who have distinguished themselves in science, art or war.

Before we left London PROF. STRAUSS expressed the wish to prepare a preface for our English edition of "Plain Home Talk." Of course we acceded to this generous request; but on receipt of the manuscript it seemed to us that it was too lengthy for the purpose for which it was intended and we laid it aside without then thinking what use we would some time put it to. Just at this time when there is a kind of craze through the country on the part of the medical profession to secure the passage of medical laws, it would seem an opportune moment to show what PROF. STRAUSS thought of what is called *medical science* after spending all the best years of his life in the study and practice of medicine and surgery. It is true that great progress has been made in every branch of medicine since this octogenarian gave up medical practice in disgust; but is

there any one so foolish as to suppose that medical men now have reached the very acme of medical knowledge; that there is nothing more to be learned? Or after being compelled as they have been repeatedly, to acknowledge what has been contributed to medicine by those who were considered "quacks" and "pretenders" in their day and who are now honored for their discoveries, are they prepared to say that nothing more is to be learned from such sources?

In the article which follows the one from the pen of PROF. STRAUSS, we have a description of the opening exercises at the College of Physicians and Surgeons. Perhaps our interest in this institution is somewhat heightened by the fact that Dr. E. B. FORTZ, JR., graduated from this college in the class of 1875-6, bearing off at the same time the Seguin prize for the best report of the lectures on nervous diseases. With all the advantages which are possessed by this college with its old school proclivities, we would advise any young person aspiring to become a physician to enter one of our new school colleges, but believing as we do in the very highest education for physicians, it is a pleasure for us to recognize the progress of this old school college which has now come to possess in everything except *medicine*, the finest facilities of any college in the world. When we say in everything except *medicine*, we make this exception because we do not believe in old school *medicine*. Then, some one will ask, why did you send your son to this college? To this we would reply that he was a student in the scientific department of Columbia College, and the College of Physicians and Surgeons being the medical department of Columbia College, all of his associations were there and he desired to attend the lectures of the professors of that school. He did so and graduated with honors and then learned *medicine* in his father's office and laboratory. Because he chooses a new school practice he is taunted with the charge of quackery! Nevertheless as remarked before we take pride in the progress of the college of which he is an alumnus and it is not to be questioned for a moment, that this institution possesses great facilities for teaching everything appertaining to *medicine* except *medicine*. We would commend to our readers the two articles referred to herein: the one from Prof. Strauss, the other the report of the opening exercises of the largest college in the world. Both are suggestive. The two taken together do really show some progress in what is called the science of *medicine*. What is taught in the College of Physicians and Surgeons is far superior to what was given as instruction in the medical institutions from which Prof. Strauss obtained his education. The allopathic system is continually being enriched by what it borrows from the new school methods. With improved facilities for teaching anatomy, physiology, chemistry, and other important features appertaining to a medical education, it is to be hoped that it will evolve sufficiently to take in a system of therapeutics as comprehensive and as effective as that pursued by the Eclectic School of Medicine, or by a thousand and one independent medical practitioners who, having become disgusted with the *medica* of the old school, have struck out for themselves after having discovered new paths to health which are duly labeled with conspicuous guide boards the "regulars," so-called, would like to knock down with clubs derived from our state law-makers.

## Recent "P. H. T." Testimonials.

BRISTOL SPRINGS, N. Y., September 8th, 1887.

DR. E. B. FOOTER—Dear Sir:

Your "Plain Home Talk" has reached me, and as far as I have perused it, I like its independent and outspoken tone much. I can but believe that were it universally read it would revolutionize the social world and become a Godsend to suffering humanity. As blows are aimed in the right direction, while as sympathy is of the wide and deep kind, taking in all human suffering. On every page to those who carefully read it, may be felt a heart beating in unison with the "All Heart" of the universe, and throbbing most where ignorance, sin and suffering are the most apparent. Success to your every effort for the enlightenment, elevation and alleviation of humanity. I think that I shall be able to sell some for you. I will try and do what I can.

Yours truly, S. OKSAY.

BLACKSTONE, Mass., October 1st, 1887.

E. B. FOOTER—Dear Sir:

Il of the Murray Hill Publishing Company's publications are without an equal in their line. I have Dr. Footer's old book "Plain Home Talk and Medical Common Sense." I value it more than words can wield the matter. Its practical common sense is worth one hundred dollars to me.

Yours truly, THOS. J. DOUSER.

HYDE PARK, Mass., October 5th, 1887.

DR. E. B. FOOTER—Dear Sir:

I am the fortunate possessor of one of your books, "Plain Home Talk," and wish that I could make known to you the good it has done me physically and morally.

MRS. NATHANIEL BODWELL, JR.

## Report from Case 72,010.

GLOVERSVILLE, N. Y., September 29th, 1887.

DR. E. B. FOOTER—Dear Sir:

I deem it unnecessary for me to order any more medicine for I think that the remedies I have already used have taken effect, so it is needless for me to continue the treatment any further.

I do not hesitate to recommend your remedies to the utmost extent. I have taken two months treatment and I can truly say, as to testify for you, that I have received more benefit from your course of treatment than I ever have before from anything I ever took.

## Australian Testimony to "P. H. T."

BAIRISDALE, VICTORIA, Australia, July 12th, 1887.

DR. E. B. FOOTER—Dear Sir:

I have just finished reading your valuable production "Plain Home Talk," and must own that it is the very best book I have ever read, and I have read a good many medical works. I only regret that I did not come across it sooner. I would not part with my copy for anything. Will you kindly forward me the publications on the enclosed list. Trusting that you may long be spared to continue your great work. I remain

Yours sincerely, W. H. TUNWELL.

## Book Agents, Go Thou and Do Likewise.

WHAT MAN HAS DONE, MAN CAN DO.

BARRE, VT., September 21st, 1887.

MURRAY HILL PUBLISHING Co.—Dear Sirs:

Enclosed find \$81. Send books by express. The "Plain Home Talk" stands ahead of all books I have ever handled. I have taken seventy-eight orders here in seven days. I took seven orders this forenoon in half an hour. I hope that package will get along soon.

Yours in haste, A. K. BRYANT.

## A Teacher Pleased with "P. H. T."

WILBRAHAM, Mass., September 26th, 1887.

DR. E. B. FOOTER—Dear Sir:

The book "Plain Home Talk," should be read by every sensible young man and woman in the country. It is first-class, and if I could not obtain another copy, I would not part with the one I now have.

Yours truly, PROF. A. W. LOWE,  
Wesleyan Academy.

## The Outlook.

## Improper Influence at Our State Capitals.

No one who has occasion to visit Albany in the winter can fail to observe the activity of the lobby. During the session of legislatures in every State in the Union there are always a number of men and sometimes women at work upon our law-makers to get them to pass some pet measure. When these measures are really of public moment, the labor of the lobby is not to be condemned; but two-thirds of the work of the lobby is for a clique or body of men who have some private axes to grind. Recently in New Hampshire an investigating committee has been looking into an attempted bribery case and a press dispatch to the New York papers in September dated at Concord, N. H., spoke very plainly of the baneful and illegitimate influences surrounding legislatures. "It is," says the press dispatch, "painfully admitted that mercenary men, denominated the lobby, superior in number and exceeding in activity the Legislature, have gathered about the Capitol like carrion birds to feast on the decay of public morals. Ignoring their duty as citizens, spurning the interest of the State, and heeding only with sickening alacrity the proffered promises of a paltry reward, they hang around the Capitol, penetrating the corridors, boldly entering the halls of legislation and clinging like barnacles upon a wearied and persecuted audience. The influences, the inspirations and the methods of the lobby work havoc and desolation upon honest intentions. When such influences attend the inception of our statutes, not only will legislation fail, but soon our executive and judicial departments will rest upon an unsafe foundation. Only force of character and faithfulness of the legislators can protect the people, whose servants they are, from those vitiating and corroding influences."

It was by just such lobby work that the so-called "Comstock laws" were introduced into the postal statutes by Congress and into the State statutes by various State legislatures. The persistency and activity of the agents of the so-called Society for the Suppression of Vice, but in reality the society for the manufacture of vice, are what have given to these agents the tyrannical and un-American powers they possess. By ingenious misrepresentation and by button-holing credulous members they succeed in getting their bills before committees and then by sheer cheek and persistence, accompanied with continued misrepresentation, they work the bill along, first through the committees, then through the Assemblies until they get just what they want. Having secured these measures, under the pretense of a desire to suppress real obscenity they proceed to suppress freedom of speech and of press as illustrated in innumerable instances too fresh in the minds of our readers to need repetition. The press dispatch says: "They cling like barnacles upon a wearied and persecuted audience." Nothing could more completely describe their methods as we saw them last winter in Albany. People do not make the laws as is generally supposed. They are really made by the lobby; if not by a paid lobby, then by those who expect to receive some advantage in a pecuniary way by enforcing the laws they undertake to have enacted. While busy men and women are engaged in honest pursuits and often in reformatory labors of great value to the race, these mischief makers are spinning so many spider's webs for catching well-intentioned men and women and subjecting them to fines and imprisonment. As long as we must have laws, there ought to be a statute in every State, making it a penal offense to approach members of the legislature for the passage of any bills except in an open manner at public meetings of the legislative committees, where it should be expressly stipulated that all sides shall be equally heard and where there shall be no whispered communications in any corners or behind doors.

DURING the last session of the Iowa State Legislature a new iron-clad medical law was enacted, but months have passed and the State Board of Examiners failed to enforce it. The Board pleads that it has not the funds to institute prosecutions and intimates that the law is defective. Both the opponents of this legislation and its advocates are urging the State Board to action—the regulars are trying to goad it on, while the irregulars are daring it to come on.



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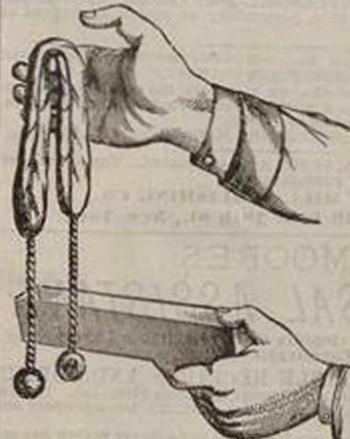
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