

like the Oriental merchant, begin the New Year with its account closed to its credit by the fulfillment of its pledged faith.

#### CHRISTMAS, 1895.

This issue of our JOURNAL contains some noteworthy contributions. The members may indeed congratulate themselves on the value of the original articles herein presented, and that the authors have made the ASSOCIATION a Christmas present of enduring value.

The articles of PROFESSORS GOULEY, ANDREWS and KELLY and others have more than a passing interest, and will be referred to again and again with pleasure and profit by all those who bind their JOURNALS.

The renewed interest taken in the ASSOCIATION, and the enthusiasm manifested in the great work of enrollment of all the regular physicians of the United States in its membership argue great things in the future. Let us not forget the necessity for renewed effort while enjoying the present, and while we listen to the merry Christmas chimes which ring their peal of gladness throughout the land let us determine that in the year 1896 the membership in the ASSOCIATION must be brought to ten thousand.

Ten thousand educated regular physicians, united in thought and sentiment although separated by American distances, will become a power for good, the ultimate benefit of which no man can now foresee, but can only dimly comprehend.

In union there is not only strength and power, but wisdom.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### Foundation of the Lane Course of Medical Lectures in Cooper Medical College.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., Dec. 8, 1895.

*To the Editor:*—The undersigned announces that in accordance with a purpose which he has long entertained he has founded a course of lectures to be annually given in Cooper Medical College, and the same to constitute a part of the instruction given in this institution. The matter of these lectures shall be some subject within the domain of medical art and science; and they shall be ten or more in number, according to the option of the lecturer. The lecturer selected to deliver this course shall be a man of superior eminence in the profession of medicine, and his selection shall be irrespective of nationality. The lectures are to be given in the English language and are to remain the property of their author. These lectures, when it is practicable to the lecturer, shall be delivered as the initial ones of the semester that begins in June. This course shall be known as the Lane Course of Medical Lectures, and the sum of \$2,000 shall be paid for each course. Financial provision for the perpetual maintenance of this course has been made by the founder. The lecturer shall be chosen by the founder during the latter's life-time; and should his wife survive him, the selection is to be made by her during her life-time; afterward the lecturer shall be chosen by the members of the Corporation of Cooper Medical College.

The friends of Cooper College will be gratified to learn

that Dr. William Macewen of the University of Glasgow has consented to inaugurate this course in 1896. Dr. Macewen states he will be present to deliver these lectures about September 1, 1896.

This course of lectures, it is believed by the founder, beside adding to the efficiency of the instruction received by the students of Cooper Medical College, will incessantly animate them to industry in their studies through the opportunities which will annually be given them of coming in contact with some of the living leaders in medicine.

LEVI COOPER LANE,  
Pres. Cooper Medical College.

#### Hypnotism and Double Personality.

NEW YORK, Dec. 16, 1895.

*To the Editor:*—I am in doubt whether such a tirade as your correspondent on "Hypnotism" in the last number of the JOURNAL has indulged in deserves notice; for I very much doubt whether of the 5,000 or 6,000 intelligent physicians who read the JOURNAL many will be found who sympathize with the spirit which it manifests. Passing by its scurrility, let me say to the readers of the JOURNAL that in these days it is scarcely necessary to discuss the "views" of men who on account of their dense ignorance of the subject have no right to have an opinion, but it is necessary to become acquainted with *facts* and to discuss them in a scientific spirit.

Judging by the number of letters of inquiry I have received since the appearance of the articles on hypnotism in the JOURNAL of Nov. 30, I am sure there are many physicians who are anxious to get at facts, and to know something definite regarding the subject. This information can not be given in a letter; but for those who desire a plain, simple statement of the facts and history of hypnotism let me suggest reading "Hypnotism—Its History and Present Development," by Frederick Björnström, M.D., published by the Humboldt Publishing Co., 19 Astor Place, New York; or, if they desire the latest philosophic views and therapeutic uses, get "Suggestive Therapeutics," by Prof. F. Bernheim, published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, bearing in mind, however, that his extreme views on the subject of Suggestion are by no means unchallenged by authorities quite equal to himself.

Neither can the subject of double personality be discussed in a letter; but I would like to emphasize the statement that the *alleged facts* bearing on the subject presented in the paper which seems to have stirred up the gall of my critic are *real facts*—account for them as we may.

It is pleasant to know that my critic, and that of my confrères, since reading that particular number of the JOURNAL has had "reason to modify some of his 'views.'" It is to be hoped that he has so modified them. The only drawback to that cheerful hope is the difficulty of understanding how a man who has simply sat down in the densest kind of a fog can have *views* of any sort to modify.

R. OSGOOD MASON.

#### Further Facts Concerning Life Insurance.

MUNCIE, IND., Dec. 13, 1895.

*To the Editor:*—Quite a number of the life insurance companies have banded together and formed an alliance to stop "rebates." In other words they have formed an association to compel themselves to conform to legitimate business principles. Some of these companies are known as "racers," i.e., they pay their agents large sums for securing new business, and these agents, in turn, divide the money with those who can be induced to take out new insurance.

To guard themselves against this wrong these companies,