got money he is guilty of exactly the same crime as that for which Senator Burton of Kansas went to the penitentiary. For the immediate activity of the Secret Service men there is no more pressing need than the investigation of whatever checks may have passed during the last eight months from the Rochester manufacturers of Duffy's Malt Whiskey (Walter J. Duffy, president) to the Rochester law firm of Perkins, Duffy & McLean (this latter Duffy being J. P., son of Walter J.).

"But whether Congressman Perkins has been guilty of a crime is not the point of this article. What is important is to let all the people know how necessary is their constant vigilance and support to see that the Pure Food Law is carried out. If you were an obscure subordinate in the Department of Agriculture or the Department of Justice, if you had no motive to proceed against a swindling patent medicine or an adulterated food except your own conscience, if your first move met with personal protest from the congressman who controlled your salary, your promotion, and your official existence, how soon would you grow tired? The enforcement of the pure food law needs all the encouragement and enthusiasm that the public can contribute; there is no trouble about the enthusiasm of the opposition—that is a matter of dollars and cents, and it is working twenty-four hours a day."

"DUFFY'S ANNUAL"

Every bottle of Duffy's Malt Whiskey is wrapped in a large circular called "Duffy's Annual." This "Annual" consists, largely, of testimonials from laymen and physicians. We have on file one issued in 1901 and another issued in 1911. There are noticeable differences between the two circulars. In the earlier annual much is made of the statement that Duffy's Malt Whiskey contains no fusel oil; nothing is said on this point in the later circular. The 1901 issue comes out frankly with the falsehood that Duffy's Malt Whiskey "cures consumption," etc. In the 1911 circular the "lie direct" has given place to the "lie with circumstance." The earlier circular contains a long testimonial from Willard H. Morse and the Duffy company at the conclusion of the testimonial adds:

"Dr. Morse is not only an M.D. and an F.S.Sc., but is a well-known therapist and a consulting chemist of national reputation."

The facts are that Willard H. Morse is a professional testimonial writer who has issued fake analytical reports for some of the biggest frauds on the American market. The title "F.S.Sc." is one that is given—price \$5 (1 guinea)—by a fraudulent organization in London that styles itself the Society of Science, Letters and Art. This title is very popular with "patent-medicine" fakery.

The earlier "Annual" recommends Duffy's dope for "painful and irregular periods"—pathologic states about which the later one says nothing. The 1911 circular "features" a testimonial from the "Hon. Richard Curran, M.D., formerly mayor of Rochester." This testimonial may carry weight with those who do not know that Dr. Richard Curran is in the employ of the Duffy's Malt Whiskey Co. He it was, as we have shown, who testified in May, 1905, that he prepared the various drugs which were put in Duffy's Malt Whiskey. But we have on file a letter written in 1910 by Dr. Curran—and written on the stationery of the Duffy Malt Whiskey Company—in which he declares:

"Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey is not a patent medicine, but a refined medicinal whiskey, made from choice materials and complies with the test requirements of the United States Pharmacopoeia."

Does this mean that the Duffy product of to-day is different from that sold five or six years ago? It would seem so. Some of the more recent pamphlets sent out by the Duffy Malt Whiskey Company contain what purport to be analyses made by chemists. One of these is from Joseph De Guehnee who, it will be remembered, when testifying in 1905 as chief chemist of the health department of the city of New York, declared that he found this product to be "whiskey with a little cane sugar added to it." But Dr. De Guehnee later became associated with the Lederle Laboratories and in that capacity he declared: "Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey is free from added sugar . . ."

We have been asked at various times whether the testimonials of Duffy's Malt Whiskey purporting to come from physicians are genuine. Investigation of a large number of them indicates that the testimonials as now published are documentarily

genuine. Evidently the Duffy Company has found that it is no longer necessary to "fake" testimonials,¹ as it has done in the past.

Of 104 physicians who had written testimonials for Duffy's Malt Whiskey, 5 are members of the American Medical Association, and 18 have written testimonials for other nostrums. From our files it appears that some of the 104 testimonial-givers are either advertising quacks or are connected with fraudulent medical concerns. It is not difficult to estimate the scientific value of testimonials that come from such sources.

CONCLUSION

We may accept the statement of the state chemists of North Dakota that the stuff is plain alcohol with syrup added to give it "smoothness" and coloring added to make it look like whiskey; or we may believe the federal chemist who declared it simply "whiskey of a very poor quality;" or we may think that Chemist De Guehnee was right when he said it was "whiskey, with a little cane sugar added to it;" or we may prefer Dr. De Guehnee's later pronouncement that the stuff "is free from added sugar;" again we may feel that Dr. Curran's early declaration is worthy of attention and that Duffy's Malt Whiskey contains drugs and is "a medicine" or possibly we may take Dr. Curran's later statement that the product is merely a whiskey as defined by the Pharmacopoeia. But whether we consider Duffy's Malt Whiskey a "patent medicine" or a low grade "booze" makes little difference. On one point we can agree unanimously; the stuff is an impudent fraud. As we have said elsewhere: A high grade whiskey has but a limited place in therapeutics; Duffy's Malt Whiskey has none.

ADVERTISING FAKES

This from the Pulaski County *Democrat* of Winamac, Ind., November 14, is commented on editorially this week:

"The *Democrat* received a few days ago a proposition to publish considerable advertising matter boosting a 'patent medicine' called 'Nature's Creation,' which is asserted in the strongest language to be a cure for consumption. The offer meant quite a sum of money to us, but we refused to have anything to do with it.

"The reason for our action is that we do not knowingly advertise any article that is a fake, and we have what we believe to be reliable and authentic information that this pretended cure is a fake, a fraud, and that it will *not* cure consumption; therefore were we to advertise the stuff to do what it cannot, and thereby induce ailing persons to depend on a worthless nostrum until death resulted, our own skirts could not be clean morally.

"Our information is that this 'Nature's Creation,' now emanating from Columbus or Indianapolis, or both, was exploited in Chicago not very long ago as an 'absolute cure' for syphilis; but as the public became more and more interested in the subject of tuberculosis during the last four or five years the stuff has been changed to a consumption specific—probably more sale for it thus than for syphilis.

"We have a list of forty-five Columbus, Ohio, persons who are alleged to have taken this 'cure for consumption'—and died; we have not heard of any cured by it. It might be the proper thing if suicide is the object."

Correspondence

Dr. Robert Fletcher: An Appreciation

To the Editor:—With the death of Dr. Robert Fletcher, principal assistant librarian of the Surgeon-General's Library for nearly thirty-five years, there passed away a nestor of medicine who was looked up to and honored everywhere for his intensive labors in medical bibliography, his rare scholarship and that courteous and cheerful spirit of helpfulness which, in the words of Dr. Howard Kelly, "has endeared him to the entire profession of the United States." Almost 90

1. Some testimonials investigated a few years ago by THE JOURNAL were shown to be fraudulent. See THE JOURNAL A. M. A., Dec. 10, 1909, p. 1890.

when he died, his span of life, like Heberden's, extended over nearly a century, and with Heberden the scholar, as distinguished from the clinician, he had many points of resemblance. In his lifetime, he had seen and met personalities so various and so widely separated in time as Sir Astley Cooper and Halsted, Daniel Drake and Sir William Osler, Emerson and the philosophers and poets of a later period. A native of England, he had served his adopted country for fifteen years with distinction as an army surgeon during the Civil War and afterward, and he was buried at Arlington with the honors commensurate with the military rank he attained.

Dr. Fletcher was born in Bristol, England, on March 6, 1823. He studied law under his father, a Bristol attorney, for two years before taking up medicine. He spent five years at the Bristol Medical College and the London Hospital, being, at the time of his death, the oldest living graduate of the latter institution. He became a member of the Royal College of Surgeons and the Society of Apothecaries in 1844. In his youth, Dr. Fletcher was attracted by American institutions, and, crossing the ocean with his young wife, settled in Cincinnati in 1847. During the Civil War, we find him surgeon of the First Regiment of Ohio Volunteers in 1861, and after three years active service in the field, commissioned as surgeon, U. S. Volunteers, in charge of Hospital No. 7 at Nashville, Tenn., and subsequently medical purveyor of the Army at the same post. At the end of the war, he was brevetted lieutenant-colonel and colonel, U. S. Volunteers, for his faithful and meritorious services. In 1871, he was on duty in the Provost-Marshal's bureau of the War Department active in the preparation of the two volumes of anthropometric statistics issued by that office (1875) and the author of the treatise on anthropometry in the same work. In 1876, he became associated with Dr. John S. Billings in the Library of the Surgeon-General's office, and his important labors on its index-catalogue extended from the date of publication of its first volume in 1880 to the last year of his life, a period of thirty-three years. Of the value of this phase of Dr. Fletcher's work, it is only necessary to quote the judgment of Dr. Billings himself that "the accuracy and typographical excellence of the volumes are largely due to his careful and skilful supervision." The same painstaking care in preparation and proof-reading are evidenced in the *Index Medicus*, in the redaction of which Dr. Billings and Dr. Fletcher were associated as editors for twenty-one years (1879-99) and of which Dr. Fletcher was editor-in-chief for nine years, after the journal was revived by the Carnegie Institution in 1903. From his early studies in law, Dr. Fletcher acquired a deep interest in medical jurisprudence and was lecturer on this subject at the Columbian University, Washington, D. C., 1884-1888, and at the Johns Hopkins University, 1897-1903. He was president of various scientific societies in Washington and the recipient of many honors, most prominent of which were the banquet given to him by leading members of the profession on Jan. 11, 1906, and the unique award of the gold medal of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1910, a distinction which had been conferred on only eleven physicians in ninety years, most prominent of whom were Parkinson (1822), Thomas Bevell Peacock (1876), Richard Owen (1883), Sir W. J. Erasmus Wilson (1884), Sir James Paget (1897) and Lord Lister (1897). Only a few days before his death Dr. Fletcher was pleased to receive a degree in medicine from the institution which he had first attended in his native town. A severe attack of diphtheria in the spring of 1911 brought on a condition of enfeebled health which he bravely weathered but to which he gradually succumbed, dying on the morning of Nov. 8, 1912.

In personality, Dr. Fletcher was a dignified, stately gentleman of the old school, much admired and respected by old and young alike for his cheerful stoicism and military promptitude, his ready wit and courtly ways, and his literary productions were the expression of his personality. These are doubly attractive through the simple and direct manner in which the results of exhaustive research are conveyed and a certain strain of grave irony in which, as we have said, he resembles Heberden. His earlier essays were entirely in the field of

anthropology and include, besides the statistical and anthropometric treatise above referred to, the pioneer monograph in English on "Prehistoric Trephining and Cranial Amulets" (1882); with interesting contributions on Paul Broca (1882), "Human Proportion in Art and Anthropometry" (1883), "Tattooing Among Civilized Peoples" (1883), "Myths of the Robin Redbreast in Earlier English Poetry" (1889), "The New School of Criminal Anthropology" (1891), "Anatomy and Art" (1895), and "Scopelism" (1897), the latter being also the first paper on the subject in English. A short paper on "Columns of Infamy" will soon appear in the *American Anthropologist* (No. 4, 1912). Dr. Fletcher's affiliations with the Medical Faculty of the Johns Hopkins University led to the production of a number of valuable papers on medical history, of which the best were his essays on "Medical Lore in the Older English Dramatists and Poets" (1895), "The Witches' Pharmacopeia" (1896), and "A Tragedy of the Great Plague at Milan in 1630" (1898). The former of these reveal his unusual offhand knowledge of English poetry; the latter is a remarkable piece of synthetic work, the story having been developed *ab initio* from a rare old Italian engraving. An unpublished essay on "Some Diseases Bearing the Names of Saints" will shortly appear in the *Bristol Medico-Chirurgical Journal*.

The profession will lose in Dr. Fletcher the accomplished bibliographer and medical scholar; his intimates will miss the high-minded, honorable gentleman, the staunch and loyal friend.

FIELDING H. GARRISON, M.D., Washington, D. C.

The New Hospital at Louisville

To the Editor:—I have just returned to Louisville after an absence of ten months spent on the Pacific Coast, and find many changes here in things medical. Chief among them is the creation of a million-dollar city hospital. I once heard it remarked that to judge any place correctly "one should look at the advantage of its public schools and the conditions of its cemetery." These may be good criteria, but I would add, "inspect the hospital intended for the treatment of the poor." Indeed, throughout Europe and this country as well, no greater problem confronts the medical profession than the proper management of these institutions.

You will permit, I am sure, some detailed mention of the superb building that is now nearing completion in this city. It may be that the erection of a similar institution is being contemplated elsewhere, in which case those who have charge of the matter may profit by reading this, or what would be better, may accept the invitation to come here and inspect the new building before completing their plans.

The hospital occupies a lot 727½ by 342 feet, located nearly in the center of the city. This is much to be preferred to a location in the suburbs, owing to the greater ease with which the patient may reach the hospital. The plans are on what might be termed a combination of the pavilion and cottage systems. The hospital consists of a central administration building, and four ward buildings, arranged symmetrically along a south connecting corridor, while the service, clinic and operating building and the psychopathic and special treatment building are on the north side of the corridor. Detached from the main group of buildings are the isolation buildings, help building, nurses' home and power plant. The buildings are generally of three stories with a high basement. The ward buildings have flat roofs with parapet walls, so that they may be used as roof-gardens for recreation and outdoor treatments. They have elevator service direct to the roof and will prove a valuable adjunct in the modern treatment of disease. All the buildings are constructed of concrete, reinforced by steel, and are believed to be fire-proof. There are no bells used, but all signals are given by electric lights communicating directly with the patient's bed. Each floor is a separate unit as far as unguarded intercommunication, transmission of noises and cross-infection are concerned.

The stairs throughout are monolithic, of reinforced concrete faced with terrazzo, are absolutely aseptic and are easily cleaned. The roof of the administration building has a semi-enclosed roof-garden, to be used as an outdoor ward for chil-