

the great wings of the New York State medical profession. It seemed to me that the resolution which was unanimously adopted by the Association in 1885 as a conciliatory measure to meet the objections raised by the New York State Medical Society was ample:

"Resolved, That Clause 1, Article IV in the national Code of Ethics is not to be interpreted as excluding from professional fellowship on the ground of differences of doctrine or belief, those who in other respects are entitled to be members of the regular medical profession. Neither is there any article or clause in the said Code of Ethics that interferes with the exercise of the most perfect liberty of individual opinions or practice."

Reluctantly I was forced to believe that the time was not yet ripe for the harmonious adjustment of difficulties which pertained far less to the assumed faults of the Code, than to bitter dissensions on the part of individual members.

It was with this thought, without consultation with any, that I selected your honorable committee and imposed upon them the serious task of the consideration of the revision of the Code of Ethics. The gentlemen composing the committee were all known to me personally as men distinguished, not only for their learning and ability, but judging from their previous labors in the advancement of medical science, I deemed the Association peculiarly fortunate in being able to secure their services. It was a surprise to many that the first year of your efforts should be confined to a revision of the Constitution and By-laws, when you were appointed to consider only the revision of the Code of Ethics, doubtless, however, with the thought of securing an harmonic whole. To very many your revision seems extreme and I would suggest a marked modification somewhat as here outlined, preserving all there is of value in our really very excellent old Code, modifying only along the lines of advancing science, since if compelled to choose between the old and the new, as you have formulated it, I must support the former, an opinion which I can not doubt the large majority of our members will give approval.

HENRY O. MARCY.

On Revision of the Code.

NEW YORK, April 24, 1894.

To the Editor:—The venerable father of the Association in the issue of April 4, 1894, in his disapproval of the revision of the Code of Ethics asks the question: "In what direction this progress?—that of science and honor, or that of mammon and dishonor?" Now, as he has asked, it is discourteous not to reply. Also, this is the time for members to speak out their sentiments, as a matter of history and material for action. Dr. Davis says the Committee has *emasculated* the section on patents and proprietary medicines, making it prohibit only patents "for secret nostrums" (*i.e.*, ours, from *nos*—we); "a medicine the ingredients of which are kept secret to restrict profits to proprietor or inventor."—Webster; in other words, for "mammon and dishonor."

I have no doubt that the majority of the members have used antipyrin, phenacetin and sulfonal, out of which the German owners have reaped millions of dollars; yet they are practically secret nostrums patented, and I doubt if they can be made from the formulæ.

The ethics of these chemicals say that Association members can swallow their Code for Germans and not for Americans; this is free trade with a vengeance. There is a good deal of progress towards "mammon and dishonor" in the above use of such chemicals.

Further, the old Code shows the profession in a bad, if not dishonorable condition for themselves as book-makers. The father of the Association has copyrighted his books; *i.e.*, his medical ideas in paper and ink; it is the same as a patent or proprietary nostrum (ours). Now, suppose he had produced ideas in hard rubber, metal, wood or even paper

without ink; to patent such would be considered mammon and dishonorable, but protection for paper and ink is honor.

In eternal common sense and fact, medical ideas, whether printed or not, are entitled to protection or no protection alike.

I know a medical man who got up medical ideas in hard and soft rubber, linen, iron and silk; these ideas he freely gave away to the profession; in England they were said to be the best for 6,000 years; English medical students could not graduate unless they knew about them. One day, when he thought he had thus done well he was much taken down by an AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION member, one of the most eminent in the world in the line of such ideas, by the query: "Did you make any money by those ideas?" "No," was the reply. "You ought to have made \$100,000. Why did you not get them patented? How foolish!!!!" Not much honor, then, in giving the world those ideas, according to one of the very supporters of that Code that prohibited patents! Tell a member he shall not patent his ideas, and then blow him up because he did not and followed the Code! Is this honorable, consistent with truth, morality, the Ten Commandments, the Golden Rule? How does the Code of Ethics work as to nostrum (ours—proprietary) advertisements in the JOURNAL? Take I—— G——, advertised by the JOURNAL, notwithstanding that the Connecticut State Agricultural Experiment Station after examination reported that it was common flour heated, bought at from 2½ cents to 5 cents and sold at \$1 per pound. Is it science to call common flour an extract made by chemistry when it is a powder chemically made? And the "greatest food for invalids?" Is this science and honor? And yet the old Code believers allow this, and the Association makes money publishing untruths.

If a member should advertise a proprietary medicine in the JOURNAL or elsewhere, he would be subject to discipline. An outsider has greater privileges. I approve of the Committee's report as to this section also because it is a dead letter. Members are getting patents in spite of the Code, as they get copyrights. There is often more science in instruments than in books. The instrument represents new ideas; medical books are too often made by threshing out old straw and somebody's ideas because they sell best.

Another consideration: The late Dr. Louis Elsberg, a member, invented after years of study an admirable forceps for topical applications to the larynx, throat, posterior nares and nares. It took much study and time to get the right angle, 120 degrees, for the bend. It went on the market unprotected. The makers, who generally think they know more than the inventor (try it, if you do not think so), changed the angle variously—so that the forceps were a failure; I well remember how badly Dr. Elsberg felt when he knew that his instrument did not do the good it was capable of and thus relieve suffering, simply because he did not protect it from changes. I have known of like cases with other medical men; one gentleman of great eminence in his specialty in surgery has the pleasure of knowing the Government has ordered thousands of dollars worth of his instruments on which he has no protection, and hence no profit. Would it not have been better for this man, as well as others, to have made some money out of his brain children and thus conserved energy and perhaps brought forth more ideas of value? So long as our present system of economics is based on every man inheriting or earning money for his support, so long should his property be protected. We seem to forget that the competition will break down unjust monopolies and that only valuable things will stand. The greatness of our country has been made possible by inventions; the science of medicine would be nowhere but for patented inventions in locomotion, manufactures

and arts. They have made it possible to hold our annual meetings, and even in San Francisco. I deliberately say that the old Code, as to the ethics of medical ideas outside of books, is a poor arrangement; when any new ideas (save as above) come, we are to close ourselves up like the box turtle and let them blow over us—we are not to encourage inventions that will benefit humanity (Elsberg's forceps)—we are to wait until public opinion comes and kicks open our shell; and yet we can use antipyrin *et id omne genus*, swallowing our Code and all; we can blow up inventors for not patenting medical ideas when we have told them not to; we can as a medical association, advertise nostrums by the dozen to the world in the very number of the JOURNAL in which good Father Davis asks the question I am trying to answer. Is not this "mammon and dishonor?" For one, I am grateful to the Committee for what they have done so fearlessly and deftly; I admire our venerable father's energy, point and force, and what I have written here is simply on my own responsibility, declarative of my ideas in answer to the question frankly, plainly and honestly. I wish others would speak out their sentiments, pro or con, and then this vexatious matter could be settled and the Association attend to work of which there is dying need and members are dying in need of, to-wit: The "new gospel of *Materia Alimentaria*."—(Joseph Jones, M.D., LL.D., New Orleans.)

I look forward to the time when any person qualified to practice medicine, and who calls himself simply a physician and surgeon with no sectarian title, can walk into the AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION to full-hearted membership and "not to doubtful disputations," and the Code will consist of the law of the eternal fitness of things which needs not man's arbitrary measurements, but does things rightly because complemented by the law of compensation, the executive of Justice.

E. CUTTER, M.D.

Medical Institutions of San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 26, 1894.

To the Editor:—The AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION will meet in San Francisco June 5 to 8. During the meeting the members will be cordially invited to visit the following institutions:

City and County Hospital, Potrero Avenue and 22d Street, contains 450 beds. Superintendent, F. H. Titus; visiting surgeons, R. A. McLean, C. N. Ellinwood and G. F. Shiels; visiting physicians, W. W. Kerr and J. O. Hirschfelder; oculists and aurists, W. E. Hopkins and Geo. Merritt; visiting gynecologists, H. Kreutzmann and C. A. von Hoffmann.

St. Mary's Hospital, First and Bryant Streets, is conducted by the Sisters of Mercy. Visiting surgeon, A. T. Leonard; gynecologist, Luke Robinson; physicians, W. S. Thorne and M. J. Fottrell; oculists, G. H. Powers and W. E. Hopkins.

German Hospital, 14th and Noe Streets, contains 200 beds. Visiting surgeon, J. F. Morse; ophthalmologist, A. Barkan; gynecologist, H. Kreutzmann; physician, Rudolph Baum.

French Hospital, Bryant Street near Sixth. Visiting surgeon, Dr. Bazan; physicians, J. D. de Chantreau and G. Gross; oculist, K. Pischl.

St. Luke's Hospital, Valencia Street near 27th, contains 75 beds. Visiting surgeon, C. G. Kenyon; physicians, Washington Dodge, F. W. D'Evelyn and C. J. Burnham; oculists, G. H. Powers and A. H. Voorhies; gynecologist, W. H. Mays.

Children's Hospital, 3700 California Street, contains 100 beds including the Maternity. Visiting physicians, Lucy M. F. Wanzer, Emma S. Merritt, Edna R. Field, Mrs. C. B. Brown, Charles von Hoffmann, A. P. Woodward; oculist and aurist, W. E. Hopkins; orthopedic surgeon, Harry M. Sherman.

California Woman's Hospital, 3118 Sacramento Street,

contains 50 beds. Visiting surgeons, C. B. Brigham, O. O. Burgess, W. Winterberg, C. Max Richter, Dudley Tait, L. L. Dorr; surgeon in charge, F. W. Vowinkel.

United States Marine-Hospital is situated in the Presidio Reservation on the banks of Mountain Lake, and is accessible by the Sacramento Street cars.

Another hospital is on the eve of completion, viz.: Lane Hospital, which will contain over one hundred beds; this has been erected by the writer at a cost of \$150,000 and has been presented by him to Cooper Medical College, thus giving this institution unsurpassed facilities for the work of medical education.

This pile of buildings, which is in conspicuous view to the traveler who enters the Golden Gate, together with the lands accompanying the gift, equals in value a half million of dollars, and has been presented as an offering to the Healing Art in its merciful service to suffering humanity.

The members of the Association will also have an opportunity of visiting the medical college erected and presented to the University of California by the late Dr. H. H. Toland. Some of the members will remember their visit to this institution during their sojourn here, twenty years ago, when they were given a reception there by the distinguished founder. The heart of Dr. Toland would have beat less exultantly on that occasion could he have foreseen that in less than twenty years there would be a movement on foot to sell and abandon the edifice which he had planned as an enduring monument to the name of Toland. And should history repeat itself, and the un pitying hand of ingratitude pull down the monument which otherwise will perpetuate the names of Lane and Cooper, then would the scene in heaven as painted by a modern Greek poet be realized, viz.: Benefaction and Gratitude as strangers did not recognize each other in Heaven, since they had never met on earth.

L. C. LANE, M.D.

ASSOCIATION NEWS.

The Association Train will leave Chicago Monday, May 28, via Santa Fe R. R., Rio Grande Western, and Southern Pacific, for San Francisco via Denver, Colorado Springs, Leadville, Manitou, Glenwood Springs, Salt Lake, Ogden, Truckee and Sacramento. Returning, after the meeting, the train will pass through Sacramento and Northern California to Portland, thence east by way of the Northern Pacific R. R. to St. Paul. C. M. & St. P. R. St. Paul to Chicago. A stop over at Yellowstone National Park for those who desire it has been arranged, and it has been understood that at several places on the journey there will be short stops. President Hibberd's party in a special car join the train at Chicago, and the St. Louis party are expected to join at Kansas City. From all points east and south, concentrating on this train should be effected at Chicago and St. Louis. For all information relating to this train, fares, etc., address J. M. Connell, 212 Clark st., Chicago, or any agent of Santa Fe line in other cities. Rates promised are the lowest excursion rates at time of departure.

This is the only route on which arrangements have been perfected by the Trustees.

Circular from Committee of Arrangements.—The AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION will meet in San Francisco, June 5, 1894.

The transcontinental railroads have made favorable rates, viz.: \$85.50 for round trip from all Missouri River points, which is one and one-twelfth fare. The Southern Pacific Company's rates from Portland, Ogden and El Paso are one fare.

All tickets sold at these points carry five coupons of admittance to the Mid-Winter Fair.

The roads beyond Missouri River points are still charging about one and a half fares.