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**THOUGHTS**

ON THE

POLICY OF ESTABLISHING

**A SCHOOL OF MEDICINE**

IN

**LOUISVILLE,**

TOGETHER WITH A SKETCH OF THE PRESENT CONDITION  
AND FUTURE PROSPECTS

OF THE

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

OF

**TRANSYLVANIA UNIVERSITY.**

BY

**JAMES CONQUEST CROSS, M. D.** ✓

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NITOR IN ADVERSUM.

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TRANSMYLVANIA UNIVERSITY

BY

JAMES CONQUEST CROSS, M. D.

VICTOR IN ADVANCEMENT.

LEXINGTON:

PRINTED BY A. L. MINNELL

1834

# DEDICATION

TO THE

CITIZENS OF LOUISVILLE,

AND THE

PEOPLE OF THE WESTERN AND SOUTHERN STATES.

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A dedication thus wide and comprehensive, it is needless to remark, is made more for the purpose, if possible, of obtaining a fair and unprejudiced hearing than to flatter or eulogize. The former, justice gives me authority to demand, while the circumstances of the case, would render the latter nugatory and idle.

No step momentous in its nature should ever be taken, but from deep, deliberate and dispassionate reflection. Conduct, rash or precipitate, is so frequently and surely followed by the condignest retribution that he, who would unnecessarily expose himself to the risk of incurring it, must either be so incurably stupid, as to be unable to foresee the most obvious consequences, or so obdurate as to be insensible to the severest and justest reproach. Fully sensible of this, we would not insolently obtrude our strictures and reflections, on the attention of the public. Our pretensions are humble, we frankly confess, and on this account, we feel the deeper humiliation. Insignificant, however, as I may be, I cannot be frightened into the belief that, when the causes, which have provoked me to make this publication, are fully understood a generous public will pronounce me guilty of an act of unauthorized violence, or torpidly insensible to the haughty insult and arrogant contumely, which a distinguished individual has condescended to heap upon me.

My success, as a Medical Essayist has been much more flattering than I had any reason to expect, or indeed, than I could have asserted any just claims to. Honour and respectability,

have always proved highly grateful, to the feelings of the oldest, the wisest, and the most profoundly learned members of the medical profession:—that they should prove flattering to the pride, and inspiring to the hopes of a youthful physician ‘still in the crudeness of early manhood,’ is not matter of surprise. An event so unlooked for, if it had not been the cause of unreasonable presumption, could not easily have avoided inspiring some degree of confidence.

Without, at this time, referring particularly to other circumstances, my success, as a medical writer, induced me to believe, that, if placed upon a broader theatre, my exertions would prove, not only more useful to the public, but also to myself. Under this impression, in conjunction with another individual, application was made to the Honourable Board of Trustees of Centre College, to create a Medical Department in that institution. With a magnanimity and liberality highly creditable to them, as patrons of science, and friends to the cause of suffering humanity, our petition was patiently listened to, and after due deliberation it was granted. In consequence of this act, a Medical Faculty was immediately elected; and although every precaution was observed, to avoid giving publicity to what had been done, until we should ascertain if the co-operation of competent teachers could be procured, it reached, in despite of every effort to the contrary, the public ear.

The moment it was made known, that Centre College had created a Medical Department, it became a popular subject of conversation. It seemed, at once, to inspire a degree of general interest altogether unlooked for, unexpected and perfectly unaccountable. By the friends of Transylvania, it was instantaneously denounced in terms of unmeasured reprobation, while the projectors and abettors of the enterprise, were abused in a strain of the most intemperate vituperation. All that hatred could conceive, malice invent, or the unbridled tongue of slander propagate, was despitefully levelled at them, with a hand unsparing and unrelenting. The meekness of a Moses and the indignation of a Paul, would have been put to the severest test: still, however, we observed the strictest silence.

But this would not suffice. We had been rained on by bullets, and now they determined to ride us down with cavalry. The University organ opened its batteries, and ever since it has kept up a hot, steady and determined fire. In that print the establishment of a new medical school in this State was deprecated, and its failure confidently prophesied. To remain silent any longer, was impossible. The article alluded to, must either be answered and its arguments refuted, or the enterprise must be abandoned as hopeless and absurd. To embrace the latter alternative, was not only foreign from our purpose, but it would have been preposterous, pusillanimous and disgraceful.

Through the medium of the *Lexington Observer and Reporter*, this unpleasant task I undertook to perform, and in the estimation of every impartial judge, it was accomplished in a way fair, temperate and gentlemanly. Its tone and temper, however, failed to impart to it a single redeeming trait. On all sides it was assailed in a strain of gross, vulgar and profligate malevolence, not only disgraceful to those who conceived it, but to those myrmidons also, by whom the crusade was carried on. My motives were impugned, and my conduct ascribed to causes the most profligate and abandoned. Without the shadow of an excuse, my communication to the *Lexington Observer and Reporter*, was perversely interpreted into an open and unprincipled assault, upon the character and standing of the Medical Department of Transylvania University. No more humble object stimulated my ambition, than the destruction of that institution.—Than this, no accusation could have been more untrue, or unfounded. Not the least stain did I attempt to cast on it, and yet to me is gratuitously ascribed the ambitious purpose of endeavouring to blast its character, paralyze its energies, and prostrate it in the dust. Mistaken as they have been, in regard to my object; unintentional as was my design to inspire such fears; and unworthy as I am of the dignity, which their interpretation has imparted to my efforts, my enemies and defamers could not have paid me a higher compliment, or have pronounced a more acceptable eulogy upon my humble abilities.

What had been done hitherto, was the work of minions and tools. It had been idle and bloodless skirmishing, or rather holiday-sports, and idle recreation in comparison to the fierce and bitter aspect, which the controversy has now assumed. The whole force of the enemy has been drawn out in battle array, and we are threatened with a Waterloo defeat. We have stifled the barking of their curs, but now upon our trail, we hear the deafening and petrifying cry of their unkennelled blood-hound, who is to hunt us down, and achieve our destruction. But to speak less figuratively, Dr. CALDWELL, the champion of the Transylvania Medical School, has come out in a pamphlet, of between thirty and forty pages, filled with abuse, which in malice, hatred, virulence and vindictiveness, has never been surpassed.

Against whom are the shafts of his vengeance hurled? One by whom he has never been unjustly provoked or insulted; one by whom his intolerant and illiberal persecution has never been resented; one by whom his arrogance, impertinence and insolence of power has never been opposed; one who has become obnoxious to his aversion because nature never made him for a minion or a tool; one who has dared, unaided and unsupported, unpatronized and unbefriended, to force his way over every obstacle to respectability and usefulness. This is my crime, and for this I am to be sacrificed on the altar of his vengeance.

He has thrown down the gauntlet, and I dare to take it up. He has declared war against me, and he wages it in a spirit of extermination. We asked for peace and we have been treated with insult: we begged for a truce, but still the arrows of his fury flew the more thickly around us, and were we now to cry for quarters, we should receive such quarters as are granted on the edge of the tomahawk and the scalping knife. Fight, therefore, we must, with the mad desperation of the pirate, whom even mercy cannot rescue from the gibbet or the gallows.

Such being the case, like Scipio, the war shall be carried not only into Africa, but to the very gates of Carthage. To this unutterably painful alternative no trifling consideration could ever have provoked us to retort. We had no desire to molest

the peace of Transylvania. Foreign was it from our wishes to attempt to blast her future prospects. If she has conferred blessings on the community, it was our earnest desire to follow her example, and endeavor to do so likewise. Instead of frustrating and crippling her efforts, we did believe a spirited rivalry would serve to further and render them more useful. To promote the cause of letters; to elevate the standard of the profession, and to render more efficient the springs of human happiness, she will not co-operate with Centre Medical College, but has pronounced her endeavors to subserve the best interests of medical education, as intrusive and presumptive. But we deny her jurisdiction as a judge.

A discussion of the policy or expediency of multiplying medical schools in the West did not necessarily involve a consideration of the merits of the Transylvania Medical Faculty, or of my capacity to teach medicine. This was imparting to the question a personal character which did not belong to it, and which should not have been foisted in but from other and higher motives than the gratification of individual, selfish and malevolent feelings. In this dispute, therefore, the *onus probandi* has devolved upon us. If the circumstances by which we have been surrounded without our consent, have constrained us to reveal truths which, for the reputation of the Transylvania Medical School, had better have been buried in oblivion, the coadjutors of Dr. CALDWELL must blame him and not the humble individual whose destruction they seek with a spirit not less fiendish than diabolical.

In the justice and impartiality of the decision of the people of the West and South in regard to my conduct as pourtrayed in this publication, I repose a confidence the most perfect and profound. Without attempting in the least to forestall public opinion, the course which I have pursued must be viewed in a light not only justifiable, but imperious and unavoidable. Considerations less weighty and binding than those springing from the publication of Dr. CALDWELL could not have forced me from my retirement or have provoked from me this response.

In concluding these exegetical rather than dedicatory remarks, I must ask the indulgence of the public on account of the loose, diffuse and unpolished style of this composition. For particular reasons its publication at as early a period as possible, was indispensably necessary. Twelve days only have elapsed since its composition commenced, and much of that time has been engrossed by the duties of a heavy and onerous practice.

JAMES CONQUEST CROSS.

February 10, 1834.

## THOUGHTS, &c.

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Notoriety, however ardently desired, that of the Ephesian incendiary cannot awaken emotions of pleasure in a bosom which burns with a noble and virtuous ambition. Nor does the heart of the patriot palpitate with joy even at the attainment of a celebrity that has sprung from actions of equivocal interpretation. The most scrupulous will not therefore suppose that we have derived much satisfaction from the light in which the conduct of those engaged in the establishment of a medical school in Louisville has been exhibited, and their motives travestied in a work entitled "*Thoughts on the impolicy of multiplying schools of medicine*, by CHARLES CALDWELL, M. D."

With the claims of Dr. CALDWELL as a man of fine talents, an elegant and diversified if not a profound scholar, on the respect and consideration of the community, we are not unfamiliar; nor are we insensible to them. Circumstances have made us assume towards each other an attitude of zealous hostility; yet I should fall in my own estimation were I capable of doing him or any other man the slightest injustice. His inquisitorial persecution shall not force me to conceal any excellence of which I may know he is in possession, nor shall it induce me to magnify his faults or misrepresent his conduct.

Notwithstanding the rancorous animosity with which I have been pursued for the last two years, and the unfriendly feelings such conduct is calculated to arouse in a breast the most imperturbable, no circumstance occurred calculated in the least to impair the respect I have always had for his understanding, until the appearance of the publication just alluded to, and of which he has delivered himself with a truly obstetrical expression of countenance. His personal friends and those partial to the advancement of the Transylvania Medical School, cannot but lament that he has permitted himself to be guilty of an act of such unprovoked violence, and one too so perfectly suicidal in its character. Though we have had to bear the force of

his vindictiveness, the appearance of his pamphlet would cause us to rejoice, could the sight of human degradation awaken in our bosom any such emotion. We have too much respect for the species to see its dignity wantonly prostituted without experiencing feelings of indignant distress.

In his publication, Dr. CALDWELL has given utterance to sentiments mortifying to the pride of the understanding and betrayed feelings of malignity that would be disgraceful to the most savage heart. In every page the most dull of comprehension can discover that over his thoughts, sentiments and affections, an insatiable love of money exerts despotic and undisputed sway. We instinctively call to mind in the perusal of his '*Thoughts,*' &c. the remarkable language of the celebrated Locke:—'Let never so much probability hang on one side of a covetous man's reasoning and money on the other, it is easy to foresee which will outweigh.' His soul, like that of Garcias, appears to be always in his leather bag with his ducats.

He asserts with the most imperturbable *sang froid*, that we are '*working*' for our '*own benefit,*' and that all that has yet appeared, '*has a leaning towards self,*' and yet he has the reckless effrontery to maintain almost in the same breath, '*that nothing great and useful can be done, on the score of instruction, without money.*' Though he would have us actuated by motives the most disinterested and ennobling, he has the hardihood to make the infamous avowal that it is not from a love of honorably acquired fame; from a desire to alleviate the pangs of human infirmity; from the benefits conferred upon the public at large; from the lustre shed by his labors upon letters, or from the glory and renown reflected upon the character of his country, by his achievements in science, that he is actuated. Objects of this kind never stimulated his ambition to exertion. His cold and flinty breast knows no such generous emotion. Gold or a ragged bank note is the talisman. Their Pygmalion touch alone can warm him into life. While he lives a monument of the inconceivable mercy of the Almighty, mammon will always have a votary.

'A sordid god; down from his hoary chin  
A length of beard descends, uncomb'd, unclean.'

'We feel, even now,' says Dr. CALDWELL, 'more or less of the influence of the schools of Greece.' Of the truth of this, no acquaintance of his will deny. His avowed opinions are an exemplification of it. Isocrates received for one course of lectures what is equal in our money to \$10,000: this, says Plutarch, was his Didactron, or usual price of teaching. Some faint notion of the extent of the fees of Gorgias may be formed when he could present to the temple of Delphi his own statue in solid gold. Plato informs us that the style of living of Hippias and Protagoras was splendid, even to ostentation, and that of himself was magnificent. The profits of teaching at Athens were so extravagant that even Aristotle, after having received the most munificent presents from Philip and his son Alexander, resumed the practice of giving instruction. Could such days be again revived, what ecstasy would it create in a certain quarter? A class like that of Isocrates, of one hundred pupils, each paying one hundred dollars, would be to Dr. CALDWELL a real *el dorado*.

'It is to be lamented,' says Dr. CALDWELL, 'that boys are too solicitous to attain the standing and privileges of men.' We might here remind him of the ineffectual struggles of thirty years of his early life. Such reminiscences would only awaken the most bitter feelings and open afresh the almost obliterated wounds of his heart. He, too, had youthful aspirations, but by the frowns of an ungenerous public they were disappointed. Thirty years of unwearied, unshrinking effort, and of the most ostentatious pretension, failed to compass the object of his ambition. He toiled through nights of study and laborious days, until hoary age had shed its snows upon his sterile brow, before the object which dazzled his sight and inveigled his affections was fairly within his grasp. His lot was singular and perhaps hard; he should not, therefore, insist upon others having to pass through the same painful and protracted period of probation. He should recollect that many have numbered the acquisition of a Professorship among the early achievements of vigorous manhood. They, unlike himself, were not sickened by the repeated prorogation of hope. The names of Bœr-

haave, Haller, Hoffman, Horstius, Gaubius, Garnet, Jno. Gregory, and last, and doubtless the least, the *illustrious* Yandell, should be fresh in his recollection. Before their 27th, several of them, and before their thirty-third year, all of them had reached the dignity of a Professorship.

Such illustrious examples are not adduced in justification of the lofty aspirations of the author. They are mentioned simply with the view to exemplify the fact that decrepit age has not always been regarded as essential in the character of a teacher of medicine. If the crusade which Dr. CALDWELL is now carrying on against youth, and energy and intellectual enterprise had been the doctrine of former ages, the Universities of Leyden, Vienna, Gottengen and Halle would never have shown with the lustre that has given them celebrity throughout all Europe. At the age of thirty-one the illustrious Bichat bequeathed to posterity a reputation which a Hunter might have envied or a Haller been proud. Dupuytren, the Prince of French Surgeons, when yet a boy, held offices of the highest distinction and emolument.

Hoary age may rail at the aspirations of youth and the early efforts of genius until it wake the very dead, and yet the everlasting truth that every splendid revolution or reformation which has checkered the eventful history of medicine, has been nobly achieved by the undaunted exertions of physicians 'still in the crudeness of early manhood,' will never change. It is, moreover, equally true, that the more youthful have always made more zealous, efficient and useful teachers of medicine than the older members of the profession.

But let us hear the sentiments of Dr. CALDWELL on this subject when the claims of his minion were under discussion. Perhaps the reader will have some reason to admire the versatility of his opinions. 'Will it be said,' he asks, 'that Dr. YANDELL is young? So much the better. A young man of talents, attainments and ambition, is always found to be one of the most useful members of a school of medicine. He gives to the institution, when associated with his elders, a freshness, elasticity, and warmth, which are peculiarly favorable to it.'

Besides, he is growing daily older, and has every incentive, as well as opportunity, to make his improvement keep pace with his years. History tells us that the most distinguished medical teachers that have appeared, have begun their career at an early period of life; a period even earlier than that of Dr. Yandell.'

We are not only 'still in the crudeness of early manhood,' but the 'boldness and pertinacity' with which we have urged our claims are, in the estimation of Dr. CALDWELL, highly criminal. Where or when was this done? On what occasion was it that I ever dared to speak of my humble powers of mind or limited attainments in the profession? Not a single syllable has ever escaped me eulogistic of my efforts. I defy him to designate the newspaper or book in justification of his slanderous expressions. But suppose the 'boldness and pertinacity' as ascribed to me had a proper foundation in truth, is Dr. CALDWELL the individual by whom such a charge should have been preferred? Those who know him will answer in the negative.

Few truths are more firmly established, than that the spirit of a teacher, if he be able, zealous and efficient will be to a greater or less extent, infused into his pupils. If, therefore, more 'boldness and pertinacity' have been exhibited in my conduct, than is becoming in the character of a modest man, the source from which they have been derived, need not be particularly designated. The history of literature, does not furnish a single instance of the barefaced assurance and profligate impudence daily portrayed, in the conduct of Dr. CALDWELL. In this respect, he is without a parallel; a real Phœnix; *a rara avis in terris*. If one were to believe a tithe of what he has the hardihood to assert in his lectures, or the unblushing effrontery to maintain his writings, no doubt could be entertained, that his claims upon the admiration of the present, and all future generations are infinitely superior to those of all the worthies of this or any other age.

No man in the United States has been so frequently or justly charged, with being a wild and visionary speculatist as Dr. CALDWELL. Still he has his consolation. The cry of *specula-*

tion he tells us, 'is the barren cuckoo note of the dullard, or the war-whoop of the knave, uttered against the reputation of the *gifted and the enterprizing.*' Without ever having heard, that Dr. CALDWELL entertained any peculiar views on the subject of miracles, the moment Dr. BROWN'S work is published, he informs us that he is not a little gratified to find that his sentiments on this subject, agree precisely with those of the late Dr. BROWN, of Edinburg, the *most rational, and therefore, the ablest expounder and defender of miracles that has ever written.*'

Dr. CALDWELL has given in his lectures, a synopsis of the labours and achievements of Bichat; he has eulogized them, as the foundation of the brilliant revolution, which has since taken place in medicine; he has consecrated his name to immortal remembrance; he has, indeed, almost consummated his apotheosis, and then with perfect *sang froid*, and without a blush mantling in his cheek, he has asserted, that in the city of Philadelphia, more than thirty ago (this was in the year 1825, and since too, perhaps) he taught and inculcated all the great improvements of the celebrated Bichat.

The principles of Broussais have pervaded the whole of Europe, and now constitute the popular faith in the United States; principles which have shed a brilliant and unsullied lustre upon his character; principles that will cause his name to be held in grateful remembrance, by an admiring posterity; principles that have erected a monument to his fame, far more indestructible than marble or bronze; and principles too, which Dr. CALDWELL informs us, he had '*entertained,*' and under the charge of undue devotedness to "professional *speculation,*" often contended for their truth, long before Broussais was known in this country as a writer.' Besides these a hundred other illustrations might be appealed to, in proof of the fact, that the '*boldness and pertinacity*' of the pupil does not equal that of the preceptor. But we would say to him in language, not unlike that which he has addressed to us, that even were his reclamations as true as they are utterly false, with no other evidence to sustain him than his simple *ipse dixit*, his '*self-respect and consciousness of meriting*' them '*should forbid*' him from

urging them with such 'boldness and pertinacity.'—'The deportment of the deserving is modest and dignified.'

After carefully perusing the '*Thoughts, &c.*' of Dr. CALDWELL,—

"Would you not swear,  
All you that see her, that she were a maid,  
By these exterior shows! But she is more,  
Her blush is guiltiness, not modesty.'

We are attempting to found a Medical School in the city of Louisville. For this, we have been pronounced selfish, presumptuous, bold, pertinacious, immodest, undignified, and dishonourable, together with many other ugly and unbecoming epithets, to use which a man of Dr. CALDWELL'S age, wisdom and acquirements should have been ashamed. But let us hear what he said on a former occasion of himself and coadjutors, when engaged in an enterprise of precisely the same kind. He remarks that, 'To become the *fathers and founders* of such a school, towers above it (being mere members of a distinguished school of medicine reared to maturity by the labours of a line of illustrious predecessors,) to an immeasurable height, and is worthy the loftiest ambition of man.'—'Humanly speaking, they (the founders) are the sole architects of their own fortunes, the real authors of their own fame, and, like an *electron per se*, dispense a light from their inherent radiance. And this exalted lot will be ours, if fortune smile on our glorious enterprize. To us will then belong some portion of the refulgent renown of a Bœrhaave, a Haller, and the Monros of Edinburg; and we may even claim as our own, the proud motto of the house of Stuart, '*Non nos regibus, sed regis nobis editi*—Kings are our *descendants*, not our progenitors.' The individual who can talk thus differently about conduct of the same identical character, commits an act of perfidious baseness, which no language can too severely rebuke.

Unworthy as such conduct must appear in a man of Dr. CALDWELL'S age and standing, he has condescended to assail my intellectual character, and by a most unmanly effort to rob me of that little professional reputation, which God knows I

have dearly earned by a familiarity 'with nights of study and laborious days.' Not satisfied with closing the doors of the Transylvania Medical School against me, he seems determined if possible to blast all my future prospects in every other quarter. Though I have not spoken of myself, in any former publication, the cruel and unprovoked persecution of Dr. CALDWELL, reduces me now to this disagreeable necessity. This is a subject upon which no man can speak with safety or success. We shall therefore, touch upon it as softly and tenderly as possible. We would, if possible avoid being ranked with that 'tribe of egotists, for whom,' as Addison remarks 'I have always had a mortal aversion, are the authors of memoirs, who are never mentioned in any works but their own.'

Though it may appear a little ungenerous, we cannot deny ourselves the pleasure, as well as the advantage of contrasting the opinion, which he now pretends to entertain of the author, with sentiments formerly expressed by himself and his coadjutors of the same individual. Dr. CALDWELL not only at one time took a pleasure in speaking favourably of my abilities, but he went so far as to quote my writings in a strain of compliment, so decided as to satisfy the most overweening vanity. Nor has he failed to boast of my humble efforts, as highly creditable to the Institution in which I received my medical education. In a communication which appeared in the *Lexington Observer*, in the year 1831, he says that 'within the last few years its officers and pupils (those of the Transylvania Medical School) have been the most successful writers on Prize questions, in the country.' After mentioning the success of Professor COOK and Dr. CARTWRIGHT, he says, 'In 1827, J. C. CROSS, M. D. a graduate of Transylvania, won a prize offered in Philadelphia for the best Essay on Dropsy. In 1831, the same gentleman had awarded to him the prize offered by the Medical Society, of the State of New York, for the best Essay on Delirium Tremens. He then records with his usual modesty, his own triumphs concluding the communication with the following remarks: 'The prizes were offered publicly and liberally to all Physicians, who might choose to become competitors, and

the fact that the members of the Transylvania School, have been so uniformly successful, reflects much credit upon the character of the Institution.' In the *Prospectus of the Transylvania Journal of Medicine and the Associate Sciences*, it is remarked, 'To the *alumni* of the school, now scattered over every portion of the Mississippi valley, *several of whom have successfully contended with the best writers of the Eastern States*, they confidently apply, not only for support in the way of subscription, but for the more valuable contribution of their pens.' The several *alumni* to whom allusion is here made, I have no hesitation in declaring, are no other individuals than Dr. CARTWRIGHT and myself. This conclusion I deduce from two indisputable facts. In the first place, we are the only graduates of Transylvania, to whom Medical Prizes have been awarded; and secondly, we are the only *alumni* of that Institution, by whom a single line has been published in an Eastern Journal. Notwithstanding all this, I am now denounced as an ignorant presumptuous pretender. Such a sentiment to be uttered by such a man as Dr. CALDWELL, is alike unbecoming, illiberal and vindictive, and exhibits too clearly the spirit of embittered animosity and rancorous hatred, with which he has pursued the unoffending object of his aversion.

The evidence furnished in the late publication of Dr. CALDWELL, though sufficiently conclusive, is but an imperfect sketch of the bitter hostility, with which I have been persecuted by himself, as well as by his intriguing coadjutors. That our motives may not be exposed to the danger of misinterpretation, we deem it obligatory on us to give a brief exposition of their conduct towards us.

My *debut* as a *Medical Essayist* was made in the *American Medical Recorder*, in the year 1827. This periodical was published in Philadelphia, and conducted, at that time, by some of the ablest and most enterprising Physicians of that city. In proof of the standing, and character, which the *Medical Recorder* ably sustained with the professional public in the United States, I may safely assert, without exposing myself to the risk of contradiction, that its circulation was at least double that of

any of its cotemporaries. Of its distinguished merits, it would be impossible to appeal to testimony more indisputable or conclusive. Simply to be admitted into the pages of such a quarterly, was indeed a compliment. But to be placed in it, *conspicuously* before the eyes of the public, was sufficient to flatter the pride of the most ambitious. Unworthy as I am, and humble as are my pretensions, this unmerited favour was conferred upon every production of the author. To those ambitious of distinction in a periodical journal, this circumstance will never be regarded as slight, or inconsiderable; nor will it ever be interpreted in any other light, than as furnishing proof of the falsehood of the charge, that I am an ignorant and presumptuous pretender.

With a view to promote the cause of *Medical Science* in the United States, the generous *Editors* of the *Medical Recorder*, offered a *Prize* for the *best Essay on Dropsy*. This prize, it was my fortune to win. Nor is this the only instance, as the reader has been already informed, in which my efforts have proved triumphant. The opinion which Dr. CALDWELL at one time expressed, as well as that of the *Editors of the Transylvania Journal of Medicine, &c.* of such achievements has already been particularly alluded to. Assailed as I have been with such unprincipled violence, and on a point which I hold more dear and sacred than the blood which gurgles through the arteries of my heart, I may be permitted to remark, under circumstances of such peculiar aggravation, that the author is the only Physician in the United States, who had, before the completion of his twenty ninth year, borne off in triumph two Medical Prizes. Are such honours, I ask those by whom I have been denounced and persecuted, the usual fruits of ignorant and presumptuous pretension?

At the time when the author was regarded, as a regular contributor to the *Medical Recorder*, the *Transylvania Journal of Medicine* was started. Residing at that time in the South, we were written to, on the subject of transferring our efforts from the former to the latter periodical. Such reasons were assigned for the policy and expediency of this transfer, as were

not easily to be resisted. I acted in obedience to the suggestions that had been made, after which I did not publish a single article in the *Medical Recorder*. For the space of three years, I laboured with unremitting industry, as far as my 'ignorant and presumptuous pretensions' could contribute thereto, to raise the character of, and confer standing upon the *Transylvani Journal, &c.* That my exertions were not altogether unavailing, I had some reason to believe, not only from the letters which I received from several of the members of the *Transylvania Medical Faculty*, but also from several respectable Physicians, both in the West and South. Certainly from all that I could see or hear, I had no particular reason to be dissatisfied with my success.

In the winter of 1830-'31, however, things began to assume a different aspect. The firmament which had till then, presented nothing but the clear blue haze of an autumnal sky, began to look dark, and threatening with the gathering of lowering clouds. In the winter of 1829-'30, I informed Dr. SHORT, one of the Editors, that I had written an Essay which was so long that it could not be published in all probability in less than five or six numbers of the *Journal*, and that unless I received some assurance that I would be permitted to complete it, I would decline its publication for the present. He requested a consultation on the subject with his coadjutor Dr. COOKE. When I saw him a few days afterwards, without saying any thing of the result of his interview with Dr. COOKE, he asked me for the manuscript. Four parts of the Essay were published without interruption or any indication of dissatisfaction. A few days after the fifth part had been handed to him for publication, he informed me that it must be divided, or it could not appear in the *Journal*. I examined the manuscript to ascertain if division were possible without doing the subject treated injustice, or inflicting injury upon myself. This I discovered to be impracticable, and informed Dr. Short of it, to which he positively demurred. I thus discovered my situation to be unpleasant and hazardous. Such illiberality I believed, could spring from no other motive than a wish to injure me, by abruptly and unexpect-

tedly discontinuing the publication of the Essay, before it was completed. In consequence of treatment, which I, and every other man, must regard as unfair and disingenuous, I declared to Dr. Short that I would never again write a line for his Journal. His answer was clearly interpretable into a desire, that such a course on my part was an object, the consummation of which he devoutly wished.

A brief statement of the unpleasant situation, in which I had been involved by the unkind and unfriendly conduct of the Editors of the *Transylvania Journal*, &c. will place in its true light, the causes of my complaint. As is usual in such cases, at the end of every part as published, was appended '*To be continued.*' Here was a positive pledge, that the Essay had not been completed. To close his intercourse with the public in a manner thus abrupt, could not be desired by any author, who had a proper regard for his standing. This obvious objection to the course which the Editors had, no doubt predetermined to pursue, was suggested unavailingly. If their unwillingness to proceed with the publication had been mentioned to me, before the appearance of the fourth part, with some inconvenience, I could have drawn it to a close in such a manner, as not materially to have impaired the value of the Essay. Had they desired, as they were in duty bound, not to inflict unnecessary and unmerited injury upon my character as a medical writer, they would have permitted me even at considerable sacrifice to close the fifth part in such a way, as to deceive the public into a belief that I had written as much on the subject, as was originally contemplated. But this poor boon was insultingly denied me; and for what? For no other reason than the discovery made by Drs. Caldwell and Cooke, that if I was permitted to persevere in the train of investigation, in which I had for some time been engaged, that my views would run foul of the *lawless conjectures* of the former, and the *dotard theories* of the latter. Thus I was violently excluded from a periodical, into which I had been pressingly invited, because I would not subscribe to the *gross absurdities* of the one, and the *drivelling nonsense* of the other.

This is an unexaggerated statement of the treatment which I received for dissolving my connection with the Medical Recorder; and may this be the reward of every man, who abandons a Journal so respectable, for one so utterly contemptible. I relinquished my place in a quarterly, that was read not only in every nook and corner of the United States, but also throughout the most of lettered Europe, for a place in a work circumscribed in the sphere of its circulation to a limited portion of the valley of the Mississippi; a work, the existence of which is unknown to hundreds of Physicians in the United States; a work, the quarterly reception of which is barely acknowledged by the Atlantic periodicals; a work rarely ever critically noticed, and when noticed, almost always in such a manner as clearly to indicate the contempt in which it is held; a work that has never augmented the reputation of a single contributor, but has often detracted from that previously earned; a work that has never been quoted by an author, and never will be by one who has any respect for himself; a work, in fine, whose winding-sheet has been made—whose grave has been dug—and whose funeral dirge its prurient Editor already hears tolling in his ears.

In the spring of 1831, Dr. Yandell was elected Professor of Chemistry and Pharmacy. This was a darling object of Dr. CALDWELL's ambition. Of this appointment I have never had but one opinion, and that opinion I made no effort to conceal. It was the result of a thorough knowledge of the man, and of his attainments. That the interests of the school were prostituted, when he was offered the Chemical Chair, to subserve the base purposes of an interested and selfish system of favouritism, I then believed and still unflinchingly maintain. But more of this hereafter. The feelings of friendship which Dr. CALDWELL had previously manifested towards me, now began sensibly to cool. The change was perceived, but its effects upon my deportment were not noticeable. From my knowledge of Dr. CALDWELL, I did not believe that my opposition to his favourite would be pardoned. I determined, however, that if a rupture took place it should be without just cause, and

consequently continued to treat him with my usual urbanity and courtesy, as long as he would permit it.

In the autumn of 1831, Professor RICHARDSON, unsolicited and unexpectedly offered to have me appointed *Adjunct Professor of Obstetrics, &c.* To this proposition, after some hesitation, I agreed, but remarked to him at the time, that I did not believe he would be able to prevail on the reigning junta to make my nomination to the *Board of Trustees*. Numerous reasons prevailed on me to believe that I had been proscribed by a faction in the *Transylvania Medical Faculty*. More, therefore, with the view of putting my mind to rest on this subject than from an expectation that I would receive the Adjunctship, I agreed to permit the effort to be made. That nothing might be wanting on my part to ensure success, I went so far, notwithstanding the daily increasing coldness of Dr. CALDWELL'S conduct towards me, to speak to him on the subject. My object in doing this was to conciliate him, if possible; but this I found unnecessary. With more duplicity than I at that time thought him capable of, he expressed himself well pleased with the resolution of Dr. Richardson, and promised his earnest support to the measure. 'Of one circumstance, however,' said he, 'I must advise you; there are some members of the Faculty who labor under the impression that you have a temper not easy to manage, and if your nomination fails to be made, it will arise from that cause.' I responded that my temper was only a pretext for their hostility towards me, and that if the nomination was refused, I should regard it as conclusively proving that the doors of the University were forever closed against me. After a pause sufficiently significant, he replied, 'Sir, you will have good reason to think so.' Notwithstanding the promised aid of Dr. CALDWELL, I had sagacity enough to discover that the nomination would never be made, and my convictions on this subject were communicated to Dr. Richardson. Subsequent events only served to prove that my anticipations were but too well founded.

Had I received the Adjunctship alluded to, no additional expense would have been incurred by the student. The

amount of the fees received by the obstetrical chair would not have been increased one cent, while, without exposing myself to the charge of vanity or presumption, I think I may say the interests of the department would have been considerably enhanced. This I predicate, not upon any superior attractions that I might have presented, but from the simple fact, which carries with it its own commentary, that the class would thus have enjoyed the advantages arising from the talents, attainments and experience of two individuals instead of one. But to strengthen a department, and to render it more useful to those who receive instruction, are considerations secondary in importance and interest to the gratification of a grovelling and ignoble hostility. Believing this to be true, can an enlightened public regard the following language of Dr. CALDWELL in any other light than a mean Michævilean hoax, designed to deceive the community and calculated to attach to us the odium of an unworthy and restless impatience? 'Would it not be much more to their credit,' says Dr. CALDWELL, 'as well as ultimately to their benefit, to devote their time to increasing their stores of knowledge, and accomplishing themselves in the modes of communicating it, that they might become well qualified to fill the vacancies that time must necessarily create in the school?'

In regard to our particular case, we have only to say, if our knowledge has not kept pace with the restlessness of our aspirations, it has arisen only from a too advantageous comparison of it, with that of those who, with scarcely a tithe of it, have easily compassed the object of their wishes. If our 'modes of communicating' knowledge are not enriched by graces as numerous and as attractive as we could wish, we aspire 'to the responsible office of publicly imparting instruction to others,' because we see it in the keeping of those to whom it would be impossible for the commonest minds and the most ordinary attainments, to be inferior.

Proscribed as I had been for several months, and knowing well what construction would be put on the rejection of my nomination by my few friends, the Medical Faculty hastened as speedily as possible, to give publicity to my denunciation.

Concealment of their nefarious act they knew to be impracticable, and therefore, from motives of the bitterest aversion, as well as to impart some justifiableness to their conduct, I was assailed in frequent, reiterated and loud denunciation. Their object was now not to conciliate, but to exterminate. I had dared to pronounce the appointment of Dr. Yandell a shameless prostitution of the honors of the Transylvania Medical School, and for this my punishment could not be too condign or severe. Previously to my rejection by the Faculty, the friend of defamation lurked in ambush, preserved a cautious but meaning silence, or poured forth the venom of his bloodless heart in weak but wicked whispers. Since that time, however, I have been pursued in open day-light, and in the face of the world, with the most envenomed rancour and animosity.

Nor did Dr. Caldwell suffer the first slight pretext to escape; the first opportunity that presented, he did not fail to denounce me, in the public prints, as ignorant of my profession and so stupid as to be incapable of reasoning on a medical subject. Hear the provocation. In the summer of 1832, after it became generally known that the Cholera was in Montreal and Quebec, and in those places committing dreadful ravages; and when, too, the public mind was in a state of the greatest ferment and excitement, with a view to suppress this, and without the most distant expectation of being involved by it in an unpleasant controversy, I caused a short communication to be published in the *Lexington Observer & Reporter*. But I was sadly disappointed. After being informed that I was the author, Dr. Caldwell assailed it in terms of bitter invective, and virulent abuse, which I was not prepared, even from him, to expect. The part I was made to play in his response was truly ludicrous, as well as unenviable. I flatter myself, however, he had ultimately abundant reason to regret his mad procedure.

The next occasion, when I was made to pay dearly for the whistle, was after it had been made known that the Trustees of Centre College had created a Medical Department in that institution. Up to the present moment the reader has been made acquainted with the course of conduct which has been

pursued towards me, in consequence of the part I took in that transaction. From this brief sketch, no one, however prejudiced, can do otherwise than conclude that I continued to look up to my *Alma Mater*, so long as hope shed one solitary cheering ray; I clung to her with apparently increasing fondness, although I saw her loftiest honors borne off in triumph by the obscure and unknown upstart and witling; my ardour did not cool, though the sycophant and courtier wormed his devious but successful way up the heights of distinction; though I discovered that the road which, in the Transylvania Medical Department leads to a professorial chair, is the high-way to a monarch's affections, I disdained to follow it, but I did not despair; though I saw the sacred temple of science polluted by the unhallowed footsteps of daring and mercenary intruders, I still believed a day of retribution would come, when 'the tables of the money-changers' would be overthrown; and though neglected, despised and oppressed, the accents of complaint never passed my lips until I was driven from her presence with the insolent spurn of contempt, and the doors of the University insultingly closed in my face.

Under circumstances of such accumulated oppression, as well as of insult, the most aggravated and embittered, to have made an immediate appeal to the public would have been the course that most men would have adopted. But it was not my desire to disturb the peace of society by my complaints. I did not wish to purchase the sympathies of the public at a price so dear as I knew it must cost my *Alma Mater*. A course more dignified and honorable, as well as more worthy a noble and generous ambition, presented itself to my view. I resolved to permit the 'dog to turn to his own vomit,' and the sow 'to her wallowing in the mire,' and build up a new school of medicine upon a new, a different and better foundation. To the City of Louisville, my attention was naturally directed. In that place I fancied I saw all those natural and artificial advantages which are known to be well calculated to impart energy and efficiency to such an enterprise. There I believed a Medical School could be established, which, if conducted on proper principles.

could be made to spread throughout the territory of the immense Mississippi Valley, all the comforts and blessings of the *Art of Healing*.

In the City of Louisville, it is our unwavering purpose, if difficulties insuperable in their nature are not thrown in the way, to devote our feeble energies to the building up of a school of medicine in which the Professorships can only be won by those in the possession of sound science, varied knowledge and unquestionable abilities, and not through the blasting dominion of favoritism, or the paralyzing ties of legal consanguinity—in which domestic industry will be encouraged and domestic talent fairly and justly appreciated, and not a market for the sale of foreign baubles, gewgaws and toys;—in which real merit will be promoted and emboldened to put forth fresh and renewed exertion; and not, through the insolence and arrogance of those in power, be forced to retire into the solitude of hopeless, succourless and pennyless obscurity, and there to perish unheard of and unknown;—in which a laudable and high-minded ambition will be cheered on to future conquests in science, by the unstifled acclamations of official approbation, and not crippled and emasculated by the savage war-whoop of official persecution and hatred;—in which the glory, and honour, and renown of her teachers will consist, not in the number, but in the soundness, variedness and proficiency of the professional knowledge of their graduates—and in which, to confer a diploma, will be to license an able and accomplished physician, and not to license an unfeeling and unprincipled quack.

These are some of the objects, the accomplishment of which, stimulate the friends of Centre Medical College to the most strenuous exertion. Are they such as to retard the advancement of science, or to circumscribe the diffusion of human happiness? No one will answer in the affirmative. Then, I ask what crime have we committed that Dr. Caldwell should dare to assail us with such brutal and deadly violence? For this, am I to be hunted down like a wild beast—to be broken on the wheel like a malefactor—or, like Metius, to be torn limb

from limb by wild horses? Hyena-like, he has dragged me before the public, and there gluts upon my mangled and quivering members.

The petty warfare which Dr. Caldwell has been prosecuting with activity and energy against an humble, unbefriended and unpatronized individual, will not satisfy the base purposes of a truly malignant ambition. He now wages war in earnest, and it is to be a war of extermination. Much as I deprecate it, and anxiously as I would avoid it, retreat is now impossible. He has taken the field! 'The war is inevitable—and let it come!! I repeat it, let it come!!!'

Schools of Medicine, we are informed by Dr. Caldwell, 'should be erected only after mature deliberation, and from public motives; and those motives should be *broad necessity, or a fair prospect of correcting faults, and effecting improvements.*' With these sentiments we most perfectly agree. They are such as no one can safely or successfully impugn. We admit their truth, and still undertake, in accordance with them, to defend the course of conduct which has been observed by Centre College. There is nothing in them at all calculated to embarrass us in this enterprise.

We undertake to show that there are faults in existence which require, and may be easily corrected. If we succeed in this, the necessity for another Medical School in the State of Kentucky, must follow as an unavoidable corollary. The improvements which may thus be accomplished, will appear to be numerous and manifest. In the discussion, therefore, of the faults that exist, and which require correction, every thing may be fairly embraced that is necessary to be said in relation to the causes that should authorize the erection of a Medical School.

It is a glaring and inexcusable fault to elect to a Professorship, in a respectable Medical School, an incompetent teacher. How is the competency of a candidate to be determined? That we may not commit any blunder on this subject, and that we may not be thought to exact too much, we shall permit Dr. Caldwell to have exclusive jurisdiction on this point. From

his decision, his coadjutors will not dare to appeal. His judgment must be final and irreversible. We learn from him that Professors should be 'men, who are not only rich in their possession of the proper kind of knowledge, but happy in their mode of imparting it, both orally and in writing.'

How are we to ascertain whether a candidate for a Professorship is in possession of the requirements designated by Dr. Caldwell? By *concours*, as is the custom in France? No, certainly. That would be too severe an ordeal for most of the Professors in the United States. Indeed, this is so true, that there are teachers of medicine, and such examples are not unfamiliar to us, upon whom the Parisian Medical Faculty would not confer, either for love or money, the honors of the doctorate.

To what standard then are we to appeal? Organized as is the profession in the United States, I know of no other probable criterion by which to come to a determination on this point, than the success of a physician as an author or a private lecturer. The latter, I presume, most will be inclined to regard as the most infallible standard. To its general correctness, I shall not pretend to demur, though I have no doubt occasional exceptions have been found to exist. If due attention had always been paid to such considerations, few would now have reason to complain; nor would there be many or conspicuous faults that would require correction. Such tests would uniformly exclude the incompetent and utterly blast the hopes of unfounded pretension. In no other than one of the two ways suggested, unless the *concours* of the French be adopted, can we possibly ascertain that a candidate is 'rich in the possession of the proper kind of knowledge.'

We hesitate not to assert that, in the School of Medicine of Transylvania, there are several Professors who, previous to their appointment, never gave any public indication or proof of '*their possession of the proper kind of knowledge.*' As authors or lecturers, they had obtained no reputation, or manifested any ability. Nor had they ever written a line for the public, delivered a single lecture, or participated in a single

debate. Unknown to the profession, and even undistinguished in the particular precinct in which they resided, they were all at once, and apparently through the agency of enchantment, dragged from the direst obscurity and placed in offices of the highest distinction and most abundant emolument. Are they individuals who have evinced *'either great depth of research, strength of thought, variety and richness of attainment, a wide compass of mind, or high powers of combination and arrangement?'* If they are, I ask where is the evidence of it? Does the preparation of *'an able course of medical lectures'* consist in reading lectures throughout the whole session, stolen from books the most common and most familiar to the humblest tyroes in the profession? Does the transcription of lectures from the commonest *'Text Books,'* evince *'strength of thought, variety and richness of attainment, a wide compass of mind, or high powers of combination and arrangement?'* Propound the question to the students of medicine that come to Transylvania for instruction, and they will give you an indignant negative; such a negative as must convince those susceptible of conviction, that they consider themselves not only ill-treated and imposed upon, but absolutely swindled. Is it honest, I ask, to exact annually the enormous sum of four thousand dollars for reading a book to the Medical Class which can be purchased in any of the book stores for five? To do this, will it *'require the steady labor of twenty years?'* Fudge! Forty physicians, at least, are graduated every spring in Transylvania who, as teachers of medicine, would not be constrained to resort to an alternative so disreputable and dishonorable. To speak of such conduct in terms the most mild and unirritating, we must use the language of Falstaff, who, in regard to *stealing,* said, *'call it conveying, Hal.'*

Does it evince a happy talent for the communication of knowledge in writing to plagiarize a whole course of medical lectures? Though we do not prefer this charge against Dr. Caldwell as a lecturer, he may perhaps, for personal reasons, be inclined to excuse such conduct, or even go so far as to give to this question a flat affirmative. Is it to murder the King's

English, or to read from a manuscript in a drawling, stammering, muttering and mumbling manner, stolen language to furnish indisputable evidence of a *'happy oral communication of knowledge'*? As my ideas on this subject may not be considered orthodox, I appeal to Dr. Caldwell for a response to this inquiry. That he may have to encounter on this subject no difficulties, we gratuitously furnish him with the sentiments of one of the most nervous and polished writers, as well as eloquent lecturers in the United States. Hear Dr. DRAKE:—'A dull lecture is a great evil. Politeness may reconcile the majority of a class to such a lecture, but it falls dead-born from the lip of the professor. To listen, day after day, for several hours, through four months, even to animated speakers, is a serious undertaking; but to sit, from hour to hour, beneath those who, to banish

'Through the long, heavy, painful page, drawl on,' is intolerable to all, who have not a facility in resorting to early and sound sleep; the usual and best resource, under such a calamity.' Again he says:—'*There is an eloquence of the lecture room, as well as of the Bar, and Pulpit, which every professor should attain, or feel himself in duty bound to resign, so as not to exclude a competent man.* A commanding knowledge of the subject, is an indispensable prerequisite; but earnestness and animation of manner, are of equal importance; for without them, the profoundest learning and the acutest logic, are of no avail. At first, they may fix the attention, but unaided by the arts of oratory, their power is soon lost, even upon the inquisitive and the resolute; while the remainder, *pars major*, neither hear nor think.'

If what has been urged against several of the members of the Transylvania Medical Faculty, as a fault which requires immediate correction, be undeniably true, and we boldly challenge contradiction; and if, also, it be true that Dr. Drake is not too exacting in his requirements of those, who aspire to, or who are now teaching medicine, I ask, will Dr. Caldwell have the reckless effrontery to maintain, that more than one third of the Faculty, of which he is a member, are *'rich in their possession of the proper kind of knowledge'* or *'happy in their*

*mode of imparting it, both orally and in writing?* Will he dare maintain, and agree to deduce his arguments from premises of even plausible veracity, that they are not teachers stamped indelibly with the seal of Charlatanism? If he will, with him I willingly agree to join issue, and undertake to prove that he is the advocate of a cause; not only indefensible, but of one already *in articulo mortis*.

The course adopted, in the Medical Department of Transylvania University, to get rid of a professor, who happens to become obnoxious to the ignoble hostility of the dominant junto, is faulty in the extreme and calls for immediate correction. Among other illustrations of the truth of this allegation, I appeal to the manner in which Dr. BLYTHE was persecuted. To this instance I do not refer, because it was connected with circumstances of aggravation peculiarly shocking and repulsive, but because it is comparatively recent and fresh in our recollection. To tell the citizens of Lexington or the people in this region of Kentucky that, Dr. Blythe is a profound classical and scientific scholar, and a pious and eloquent preacher of the Gospel, would be to promulgate stale and familiar truths. Indeed, with such facts, a large portion of the most distinguished men in this State are well acquainted; for they were educated by him.

What were his claims upon the consideration of the public, as a teacher of the science of Chemistry? Of these, from long and familiar acquaintance, I claim some knowledge. We do him nothing more than justice when we assert that, his deep, various and thorough knowledge of the science no one competent to judge, could honestly question. His manner as a lecturer was peculiarly dignified and imposing; his language clear, chaste and classical; and if, as a manipulator, he was not the most dexterous and rapid, he rarely failed in his experiments: and when such events did take place, they were generally ascribable to the imperfection of his instruments, or the unfavourable condition of the atmosphere.

If the statement here given be true, and I presume no one will venture to impugn it, the reader will naturally inquire, upon what ground was his competency arraigned, and what

were the reasons that induced him to resign? To this question it is perfectly in my power to render a response satisfactory and conclusive. All those who have the honor of Dr. Blythe's acquaintance know, that he is a cautious, wary matter-of-fact philosopher, and to those who know Dr. Caldwell, it is useless to say that he is a visionary, speculating, slippery sophist. While the former is a stern, uncompromising believer in the Christian religion, the latter is a thorough-paced, wide-mouthed, babbling infidel, or what is precisely the same thing, an ultra-deistical philosophist. To expect, therefore, that Dr. Caldwell would or could tolerate, in the same school with himself, such a man as Dr. Blythe, would be not less absurd and ridiculous, than to expect a reversal of the everlasting decrees of gravitation. Oil and water would sooner unite than that harmony could prevail between men whose principles so perfectly antagonized. Dr. Blythe, dared to impugn the infallibility of Dr. Caldwell, and thus incurred a hatred that never dies, and exposed himself to a persecution, which without pause or hindrance, like the fabled vulture of ancient mythology, that continued to pursue its cruel task from day to day, never ceases until its deadly purpose is accomplished.

The sins of Dr. Blythe were, in the estimation of Dr. Caldwell irremissible. His sacrifice, therefore, was determined on. The fiat of Dr. Caldwell went forth, and all that was amiable in virtue, sincere in piety and sound in philosophy, shrunk from its blasting and withering presence. What fiendish engine was set to work, to achieve his diabolical purpose? No other than the denunciation of the science of Chemistry. He maintained that in the education of a physician, it was scarcely essential. In an article published by him he asserts, that "Chemistry forms no part of medical science, except in its connexion with *Materia Medicae*." Than this, no opinion can be more false and unfounded, and the enunciation of no one much more prejudicial in its practical consequences. Nor did it spring from ignorance; on this account, its expression was the more culpable in its author.

Preposterous and absurd as were the sentiments of Dr. Cald-

well he did not despair of throwing around it all the plausibilities of ingenious sophistry, and thus be enabled to accomplish his nefarious object. Nor was he disappointed. The crusade, which he at that time prosecuted with an ardour and vehemence, not less notorious than unprincipled, was but too successful. The students of medicine soon ceased to take any very deep interest in the study of Chemistry. Indeed, although redolent of the most envenomed animosity, the sentiments of Dr. Caldwell ultimately obtained such vogue, and such ascendancy over the minds of the students, that many of them boldly maintained, that to reject a candidate, on account of his ignorance of the science he taught, was more than Dr. Blythe would dare to do. If, in consequence of this course of conduct on the part of his unrelenting foe, the victim of his vengeance failed to infuse a love of Chemistry into but comparatively few of his class, Dr. Caldwell was not unsuccessful in engendering in their minds a most indomitable hatred. Thus every possible means were resorted to, in order to detach the students from Dr. Blythe, and when Dr. Caldwell had succeeded in rendering it impossible for him or any other man in similarly unpropitious circumstances to command the attention of the students, he was pronounced incompetent to discharge the duties of his department.

When this had been accomplished, the attention of the *Honorable Chairman and Board of Trustees of Fransylvania University* were called to the necessity of furnishing Dr. Blythe with an adjunct. To this measure, I do not know that Dr. Blythe would have had any serious objection, had it not have been connected with circumstances so unprincipled, that it was impossible for him to remain unapprehensive and blind as to the object, his enemies had in view. He could not but discover that their ultimate purpose was to eject him altogether from office, and thus, if possible, sink him into contempt and cover him with disgrace.

To pronounce Dr. Blythe incompetent, and at the same time to recommend an auxiliary, who was utterly and notoriously ignorant of all practical knowledge of the science of

Chemistry, was a fact too plain and preposterous not to be correctly interpreted by the sagacious old man. He saw clearly their design was to oblige him to teach Dr. Caldwell's wheedling, cringing, parasitical favourite, the science of Chemistry, and afterwards to be supplanted and disgraced by him. Dependent as was his large and helpless family upon his intellectual exertions for food and raiment, he preferred retiring from a station, in which he found he could no longer be useful; he preferred to sunder those endearing ties which forty years of unbroken friendship had knit between him and the citizens of Lexington, and seek in a distant land, far from all the objects of early association, sustenance for his family and a refuge from the persecutions of his enemies, rather than submit to such foul, cruel and atrocious injustice.

Thus was unfeelingly sacrificed, a scholar, a gentleman and a Christian, whose only crime consisted in an independent, fearless and unshrinking defence of his religious principles against the fierce and infamous assaults of a veteran infidel. A man, who suffered not with impunity, the religion of the poor despised Nazarine to be aspersed; a man who could not patiently stand by and see the moral principles of the youths, confided to his care, utterly and irrecoverably eradicated, without making some effort to save them from ruin; a man who, reckless of every consequence, with ruthless hand tore the mask from the face of infidel philosophy, and exposed to view the loathsome and disgusting carcass putrifying within. Those familiar with these demonstrable facts must laugh, were laughing admissible on such a subject, to hear the mouthing of Dr. Caldwell, about the pains that are now taken to keep the morals of the young men, who resort to Lexington for medical instruction, under the strictest *surveillance*. His cry upon this subject, is a mere tinkling cymbal and can deceive no one. Highly as I respect the talents and attainments of the Rev. Mr. DAVIDSON, and praiseworthy as are the efforts which he is now making for the moral regeneration of the Transylvania Medical School, I must frankly tell him, that the influence of Dr. Caldwell's incendiary philosophy will counteract the best directed exertions of

a score of the ablest preachers. Shocking must have been the profanity of that discourse, when a reverend minister of the Gospel was unable, with all his christian forbearance, to remain under the sound of his blasphemous voice, but rose from his seat and left the hall, his bosom bursting with the mingled emotions of contempt, insult, indignation and scorn.

*It is a fault to elect an individual to a Professorship, in a respectable School of Medicine, who finds it necessary to qualify himself to discharge its duties, after having received his appointment.* This blunder has been committed in the Transylvania Medical School, and it should be immediately corrected. Among several other instances, we, for the present, would direct public attention to the glaringly inexcusable conduct of those who participated in the elevation of Dr. Yandell to the Professorship of Chemistry and Pharmacy. A more flagrant violation of the plainest principles of justice never was committed in any other scientific institution on earth. It is utterly destitute of a parallel in the history of Medical Schools. Individuals, through the agency of intrigue and management, have been on former occasions, I know, elevated to official stations, which they did not merit, but still, there was some appearance of plausibility in their pretensions. In the case of Dr. Yandell however, his qualifications were not even alleged, as a pretext. He had no claims, and consequently they could not be urged. His acquaintance with theoretical chemistry, was not greater than that of every diplomatized physician, while of practical chemistry, he was as utterly ignorant, as he is at this moment, of the Egyptian process of embalming.

The assertions above made, we shall maintain, upon ground of direct and indisputable probation. What evidence, I ask, had he furnished of his fitness for the station, to which he has been, so undeservingly elevated. None certainly tangible or cognizable to any of the senses. Had he previously, or has he since, made any publication evincive of his qualifications to teach chemistry? Had he ever taught the science in a private capacity, and in that way exhibited a proficient knowledge of the subject? Was he known to the medical public of the Mis-

Mississippi valley as a chemist? Was he, as such, known in the extremely circumscribed field of his practice? To these questions, from Lake Michigan to the gulph of Mexico, the vexed welkin will ring with one terrific and soul-appalling negative.

On this subject, we must go into details more minute and circumstantial. The grounds upon which we maintain his incompetency, are numerous and diversified, but they all concur in sustaining the truth of our postulate. The incompetency of Dr. Yandell is incontestibly proved by the secret and fraudulent measures to which his friends found it necessary to have recourse in order to foist him into office:—friends, who discovered more zeal for the personal aggrandizement of their favourite than for the advancement of medical science, or for the reputation of an institution which a too confiding public has consigned to their base and perfidious keeping.

At the time when it was urged that Dr. Blythe was incapable of discharging the duties of his department, to the satisfaction of the medical class, without the aid of an auxiliary, it was not expected, nor was it desired, that this should drive him to a resignation. They earnestly wished that before he took a step so precipitate, he would be so obliging as to indoctrinate their minion, at least into the elements of practical chemistry. Seeing what machinery they had at work,—knowing its power, and justly appreciating the danger ahead, he determined to balk and defeat their abominable purpose by a resignation. This occurrence placed the advocates of Dr. Yandell in an awkward, and rather unenviable predicament. They saw plainly, that they must either succeed in having him elected immediately, or perhaps be defeated altogether. The *second day* therefore, incredible as the assertion may seem, *after the resignation of Dr. Blythe*, a quorum of the Trustees were assembled, Dr. Yandell was *nominated*, and Dr. Yandell was *elect-ed*. *Veni, vidi, vici*. Was ever there a more gross and fraudulent stratagem played off, upon any community? A finesse that should cover with infamy the most unprincipled blackleg in christendom. Well they knew, that if the vacant chair was not filled until it became generally known throughout the

United States, other candidates of stronger and more imposing pretensions would make application for the vacant professorship, and the prurient hopes of their parasite and minion would be blasted and perhaps forever.

The fraudulent system of puffing, which it was found necessary to adopt, in order to sustain the pseudo-pretensions of Dr. Yandell, indisputably demonstrates his utter incompetency. The course which was pursued in order to reconcile the citizens of Lexington to the appointment, in trickery and knavery, is altogether without a parallel in the dark and disgraceful records of human deception. Will it be believed that, in the city of Lexington, and by no less a personage than Dr. Caldwell himself, an article was written eulogizing, in terms the most fulsome and extravagant, the talents and attainments of Dr. Yandell. This article was signed '*A Western Citizen*,' and published in the *Nashville Herald*; and that the people of Lexington might see in what light he was held in his native State, it was re-published in the *Kentucky Reporter*. Here was proof '*as strong as holy writ*' of the qualifications of Dr. Yandell; and as such, Dr. Caldwell had the hardihood to appeal to it, although, at the time, every individual, whom I heard speak on the subject, was positively certain, as to its authorship. It is a little remarkable, however, that with all his effrontery, Dr. Caldwell would not venture a flourish or two in praise of his chemical information. On this subject he is cautiously silent, but speaks in terms of merited praise, of the chemical knowledge of Mr. EATON, the assistant of Dr. Yandell. I cannot refrain from giving the reader a quotation from this odd production. He tells us that, 'In most Medical Schools in the United States, the chymical assistant is a *learner*. Dr. Yandell's assistant is a *thorough-bred chymist*.' He might have continued, in Transylvania, however, we have determined to reverse the ancient order on this subject; for while our chemical assistant is a *thorough-bred chymist* our *chymical Professor is a learner*.

The incompetency of Dr. Yandell is conclusively proved by the fact, that without the aid of a '*thorough-bred chymical assistant*,' such as Mr Eaton undoubtedly was, he never could have

discharged the duties of the department that had been, for his sake, disgracefully prostituted. The pretended inability of Dr. Blythe to give satisfaction to the medical class, was the ostensible reason assigned why he should receive the assistance of an auxiliary. Is it not strange, therefore, as well as unaccountable, if, for another and a different reason, they gave Dr. Yandell an adjunct? Thus, before the present incumbent of the chemical chair had passed the threshold of the University, he suffered himself to be grossly and indecently insulted, when he permitted an assistant to be appointed: nor did his friends appear aware of the palpable inconsistency of their own conduct—for, though they urged an assistant upon Dr. Blythe, on account of his pretended incompetency, they, within the course of forty-eight hours, caused an individual to be elected who was notoriously incapable of performing the duties of the department. They thus gave the most conclusive proof of their profound regard for the interests of the student. In justice to Drs. Dudley and Richardson, it should be stated that, so far as I can learn, they had no participation in this disgraceful transaction. The former was probably in Europe, and the latter opposed it with all the vehemence in his power; for which, but for the interposing influence of Dr. Dudley, magnanimously exerted in his behalf, he would have been turned out of the school, overwhelmed with infamy and disgrace. But the conduct of Dr. Yandell was not less culpable than that of those to whom he was indebted for his appointment. They, it is true, were guilty of an act of self-abasement to permit a professorship to go into the hands of an individual, the ignorance and unfounded pretensions of whom, both friends and foes conspired to acknowledge: but he would never, had he been in possession of a proper degree of sensibility, honest pride or independence of principle, have received a monarch's throne, coupled with a condition so perfectly humiliating and degrading. No,—from the proffered boon he would have instinctively shrunk, as from the poisoned chalice.

Furthermore, we infer the incompetency of Dr. Yandell from the revolution which the conduct of Dr. Caldwell indi-

cated, had taken place in his sentiments in regard to the science of chemistry. The chemical chair, from having been, in the estimation of Dr. Caldwell, the humblest and most contemptible in the school, all at once, and immediately after the inauguration of the present incumbent, assumed, not only a commanding attitude, but became one of the most dignified, interesting and important. This was so much the case indeed, that he attended the lectures of Dr. Yandell as regularly as the most attentive and indefatigable student. But this did not arise from the discovery of any new beauties in the science, or its charms being presented to him in a more attractive or fascinating form than usual. His deportment admitted of a much more satisfactory explanation. Reasons of a really substantial nature operated to produce the deep interest with which he seemed to be so suddenly inspired. Notwithstanding the eulogy he had written on Dr. Yandell, and to which he often appealed with so much confidence, the citizens of Lexington, and particularly the resident students of medicine, were not as perfectly reconciled to the appointment as he could have wished. Nor did he derive much satisfaction from the condemnatory rumors that were, during the summer and autumn succeeding the election of Dr. Yandell, afloat in Lexington. He, therefore, justly felt much solicitude for the result of the *debut* of his young friend.

The object, therefore, of Dr. Caldwell, in professing so much and so sudden a partiality for chemistry, was, that he might, by his august presence, awe the class into a respectful attention to their teacher;—to applaud and encourage, by the smile of approbation, the most trifling success;—to explain, by his eloquence, the pretended causes of his numerous and inexcusable failures, and to prove to the students, by his sophistry, that to be splendid, which in the hands of Dr. Blythe, would have procured him disgrace.

The attempt lately made by Dr. Yandell to galvanize the body of a negro that had just been executed, was a perfect farce, and affords demonstrative evidence, if proof were wanting, that he is not *rich* in *the possession of the proper kind of*

*knowledge,* that fits a man for a professorship. So much difficulty was met with in procuring the corpse, and so anxious was Dr. Yandell to experiment upon it, that application was made to the Governor of the State for an *edict* commanding the Sheriff to deliver it into his hands. But in this he was disappointed. Through the kindness of Dr. McDowell however, he was permitted to attempt his experiments.

Much expectation was raised, and numerous individuals assembled to witness the wonderful phenomena that were to be exhibited. Of the many individuals congregated, Dr. Caldwell stood conspicuous, and in the midst.

With great formality an incision was made in the neck, and the phrenic nerve, as was stated, but with what truth will soon be seen, was exposed. Below the ensiform cartilage another wound was made, to permit the battery to play upon the diaphragm. The preliminaries of the experiment having all been duly arranged, Dr. Caldwell stepped forward with unwonted majesty, and pathetically exhorted the gaping and almost bewildered spectators, not to be alarmed, for although the lungs would be made to act, and the negro be made to breathe; although the muscles of his face would be thrown into the most horrible contortions, and his arms and legs be made to fly about in the wildest and most frightful manner, they need be under no apprehension that he would never again attempt to tread this 'dry and sterile earth.'

When the courage of the spectators had been screwed up to the sticking point by this most seasonable and appropriate address, the galvanic fluid was let loose, when it began to work marvels. Instead, however, of the wonderful phenomena which the glowing picture of Dr. Caldwell had prepared all to expect, nothing more, in despite of every effort, could be achieved, than to make the negro 'grin a ghastly smile,' and to cause a few feeble contractions of the pectoralis major muscle. In despite, however, of disappointed expectation and the the deep and unconcealed humiliation of Dr. Yandell, Dr. Caldwell persisted in declaring, though the students could scarcely

abstain from laughing in his face, that it was '*Very fine—very fine—fine exhibition.*'

But the most marvellous and discreditable part of the story remains yet to be told. Did Dr. Yandell in truth expose the phrenic nerve? No indeed! He got hold of a branch (and strange to tell, he did not know it,) of the great axillary *dexus* which is spent upon the pectoralis major muscle. Nor is this all. The pole of the battery, instead of operating upon the diaphragm, was thrust into the left lobe of the liver. The truth of this was satisfactorily verified by subsequent dissection, made in the presence of numerous witnesses. That such atrocious blunders should be committed, by a Professor in such a Medical School as that of Transylvania, and in the presence of such a man as Dr. Caldwell, is altogether incredible.

The preceding are a few of the reasons which induce us to believe that Dr. Yandell is not qualified to discharge the duties of his department, either creditably to himself or usefully to the institution. We have also furnished some facts which go directly to demonstrate the circumstances of deep and abiding mortification and disgrace under which his professorship was tendered and accepted. Much more might be said on this subject, but our limits will not permit us to indulge in further detail. Enough has been urged, I feel persuaded, to sustain the truth of my allegation: enough, certainly, to satisfy the most fastidious German.

As it was not chemical knowledge that procured the elevation of Dr. Yandell, perhaps some of my readers may feel a laudible curiosity to be made acquainted with the singular merit that obtained for him such sudden, unexpected and rapid promotion. We shall remove the seal from the *arcana imperii*, that the inquisitive may obtain satisfaction on this interesting point.

We learn from Dr. Caldwell, that Dr. Yandell 'is a native of the West, and a pupil of the Medical School of Transylvania; he has already distinguished himself.' In this short extract there are no less than two most barefaced attempts at deception. Dr. Yandell '*a pupil of the Medical School of Tran-*

*sylvania!* It is true, he attended one course of lectures in that School, but he is an *alumnus* of the Baltimore School of Medicine. That it was Dr. Caldwell's purpose to deceive the public into a belief that he is a graduate of Transylvania, and that its *alumni* are treated with particular liberality, will fully appear from the following quotation: He says—'In electing him (Dr. Y.) as professor, the Trustees have manifested a confidence in the ability with which their school is administered. An institution which makes elegant writers and able teachers, must itself teach well. Its product is the best evidence of its merit.' What must the public think of the conduct of Dr. Caldwell, when he unhesitatingly uses such language in relation to Dr. Yandell, whom he knows to be a graduate of the Baltimore Medical School, of 1824?

If Dr. Yandell is such an honor to the Transylvania Medical School as Dr. Caldwell would have us believe, where, I ask, was this '*elegant writer and able teacher*' when he was boasting of the achievements of its professors and pupils? Certainly to have omitted the mention of his triumphs when the honors won by an ignorant and presumptuous boy were arrogantly blazoned forth, was to do him the greatest injustice.

But I ask, where is the evidence that Dr. Yandell '*has already distinguished himself*?' I flatter myself no one is ignorant of the appropriate answer to this question. He is, be it known to all whom it may concern, Dr. Caldwell's standing panegyrist; he is the reviewer of all his books; he never fails to pour forth in his praise a flood of the most arrant and ridiculous fustian. Hear the verdict of a celebrated Eastern Quarterly on this subject:—'Certainly,' says the Editor, 'this could not have been *better* done, if Dr. Caldwell had been L. P. Y.—or had written it himself. As a *tout ensemble*, this review is a choice specimen of inflated bombast, and a better one of the "*puff direct*," we have never seen.'

Dr. Yandell, on all occasions, follows, like his shadow, his Magnus Apollo '*per fas et nefas*'; he even dares to defend him against the charge of infidelity, though volumes of proof render his efforts unavailing; and lastly, though far from being

the least of his recommendations in the opinion of Dr. Caldwell, he is a firm believer and a zealous defender of the false and preposterous system of Phrenology. Such are the achievements, and such only, by which Dr. Vandell '*has already distinguished himself*;' such are the rare merits which promoted an *alumnus* of the *Baltimore Medical School* to a professorship in that of *Transylvania*, in preference to a hundred of her own *alumni*, who are abler men and better qualified to teach. It was to reward this low, cringing, parasitical spaniel, that the claims of her own most distinguished graduates were overlooked and forgotten. While an obscure and contemptible reptile has been permitted to crawl to the summit of distinction, and there fatten on the honors fairly won by others, her own children have been unfeelingly denounced as ignorant and presumptuous pretenders, and by every dishonorable stratagem attempts are made to blast all their brightest hopes and to ruin all their prospects of future usefulness.

*It is a fault of the first magnitude, to suffer the professorship of the Theory and Practice of Physic to be held by an individual, who is the author of a doctrine that all enlightened and disinterested men pronounce to be false and untenable, and leads to the adoption of a system of practice which all experienced physicians unite in denouncing as fearfully prejudicial in the whole vast extent of its awful consequences.* The public at large, I am persuaded, can scarcely be prepared to appreciate the practical influence of the teacher of the *Theory and Practice* over the condition of medical science throughout this vast Mississippi Valley. There is not a point of this beautiful and magnificent country but what furnishes pupils to the *Transylvania Medical School*, or in which its graduates do not reside. To him a majority of the physicians who have commenced practice in this country within the last seven or eight years, are indebted for their pathological principles, and who observe in their management of disease, his rules of practice. Of what a solemnly responsible office is he the incumbent! What a subject of deep and engrossing thought! There is scarcely one on earth comparable to it, either in its magnitude and importance, or in

the wide sphere of its practical bearings. When we consider that under the omnipotent control of the teacher of the *Practice of Physic*, the treatment of disease in all the Protean phases which it is known to present throughout the great Valley of the Mississippi, is regulated: to believe that reasonable doubts exist in regard to the truth of his principles of practice, is to occasion actual pain in the breast of every individual who thinks he may possibly fall into the hands of his infatuated disciples. But what a rush of solemn thought must it occasion in the mind of the reader when he hears the terrific disclosure, that the students who resort to the Transylvania Medical School for instruction, are indoctrinated into a knowledge of pathological principles and rules of practice, which all well informed and unprejudiced physicians concur in regarding as utterly destitute of the least foundation in truth, or even in plausibility.

To make an allegation of such serious and solemn import, but from mature reflection and a thorough conviction of its truth, would be to inflict upon the amiable but deluded incumbent, a positive and perhaps unmerited injury, and also wantonly to obstruct the advancement of science. While no feelings of petty spitefulness could induce us to commit an act so infamous as the former, no earthly consideration could prevail upon us to cancel the obligations we are under to science, by an act of such turpitude as the latter. Though such sentiments are expressed from motives the most sincere, it must appear perfectly manifest, from the nature of this publication and the length to which it is rapidly growing, that an elaborate argument in support of the truth of the allegation above made, is inadmissible. At the risk, however, of proving tedious to our readers, we must claim their indulgence while a few general reflections are made; that our conduct may not appear altogether gratuitous and unfounded. Moreover, that we may not be suspected of acting under the influence of personal animosity, we shall avail ourselves of a few extracts from a very able, philosophical and eloquent review of Dr. Cooke's *Pathology and Therapeutics*, to be found in the 8th Vol. of the

*American Journal of the Medical Sciences*, at present, perhaps, the foremost medical periodical in the United States.

In regard to the pathology of Dr. Cooke the reviewer remarks:—‘A more untenable theory, or one leading to more erroneous principles of treatment, we have not of late met with; but the time has gone by when such views can exert much influence over the minds of *practical physicians*, and we may safely turn it over to the fostering care of the *author and his disciples*.’ Again:—‘Such are the therapeutical principles, and if the *pathological views* are, as we have deemed them, *hypothetical*, the consequences of these practical precepts will be found we fear, to be something *more than imaginary*. This constant resort to reiterated *purgation*, not to be restrained even after it has *induced bloody discharges*, cannot be otherwise than *disastrous*; sometimes immediately so, *by aggravating the already irritated state of the primæ viæ*; and in other instances *laying the foundation of future ailments*, by the production of *chronic derangements*. This *purging* is quite a *passion* with our *author*, and employed on nearly all occasions, and to answer *opposite and contrary* indications.’ Again:—‘The infatuation with which the use of *pills of aloes, jalap and calomel*, is persisted in day after day, till the patient has taken in a case of dyspepsia, not grains, but *ounces*, and we might almost say, *pounds*, is really *incredible and consternating*.’ ‘Well, may the author observe that his treatment is, as far as he knows, *new!* HAMILTON, and even every writer with whom we are acquainted, are mere *slop doctors*, compared to him. Even the famous Leroy, of *purging* memory, (*see his Medicine curatif*), must *quail* before him, and wonder how the *stomach and intestines* of our western brethren can withstand *such rough treatment*.’ Again:—‘The science of medicine has within the last twenty years undergone great and salutary changes. Hypothetical reasonings have given place to facts, rigidly deduced from experiments and observation; *but this charge, seems not to have affected in any degree the work before us*, which is essentially a *production of the last century*; with the same proneness to theorize, and to rest, for the support of particular views, on the authority of great names, which char-

acterize the productions of those times.' Finally:—'In closing our observation we must be permitted to remark, that we have never performed our critical labours with greater reluctance than on the present occasion. We have found so much to dissent from and to censure, that we have some times feared that it might be thought that we were rather impelled by personal pique than a proper regard for the interests of science; and yet the author is personally unknown to us, and we have only been led, if we know ourselves, to deal thus freely with his opinions, because we apprehend that his talents, his learning, and the eminent station he occupies, were calculated to disseminate his unsound doctrines over a widely extended country.'

One insuperable and indeed utterly inexcusable fault in the lectures and books of Dr. Cooke consists, in his apparent ignorance of the reformation which has been going triumphantly forward for the last thirty years:—a period more eventful or interesting is not to be found in the history of the art. Within that time Pathology, a department of science which seems to have engaged Dr. Cooke's particular attention, has been placed upon a new and more lasting foundation than at any former period. The researches that have led to this grand result have not only produced a reformation in Pathology, but have also imparted a new aspect to the whole face of medical science. Impossible, however, as it is for us to pretend with any confidence, to an acquaintance with the present condition of medical science without an intimate knowledge of the progress of those researches, which have proved directly instrumental in bringing about these interesting and important results, Dr. Cooke appears to be shrowded in as complete darkness on this subject, as if he had flourished in the middle of the last century.

To talk at the present day about Pathology, and not know what the French pathologists have done, is to speak a language less intelligible than are the hieroglyphics of Egypt or the idle ravings of a maddened Pythoras. What enlightened physician will dare style himself a pathologist, in the modern sense of the term, and at the same time avow his ignorance of

the works of Broussais, Andral, Gendrin, Bayle, Billard, Rôstan, Tacheron, Serres, Olivier, Laennec, Dupuytren, Breschet, Bertin, Georget, Lobstein, Cruvelhier, Bretonneau, Abercrombie, Bright, Farre, Johnson, Hodgson and *Armstrong*. Strange, however; as it may seem, although Dr. Cooke has written a work on Pathology, and is a lecturer on Pathology in a School of Medicine, if one may form a judgement on this subject from his writings and his lectures, he could not be more ignorant of the authors above mentioned, had they written in the Chinese language.

This being the case, will any one pretend that the students, who resort to the Transylvania School of Medicine for instruction, acquire a knowledge (so far at least, as Dr. Cooke contributes thereto) of the state of medical science, as it is taught at the present time in every medical school in Europe, as well as in every other medical school in the United States? The science in Transylvania is at least fifty years in the rear of the science any where else. Her graduates, unless they avail themselves of some less ancient source of information than that furnished by Dr. Cooke, instead of returning to their respective homes qualified to shed the lights reflected by the present highly improved condition of medical science, will be found groping their way under the obscure twilight glimmerings of obsolete science.

Belonging to the system of practice of Dr. Cooke, there is an attribute characteristically conspicuous, which will ever render it in an eminent degree, obnoxious to the aversion of the regular-bred practitioner. We allude, if we may be allowed the use of the expression, to its panaceal character. The universal application of his system of ultra-purgation, will ever be strenuously and obstinately opposed by the enlightened practical physician. A knowledge of the fate of all such remedies, ought to have convinced Dr. Cooke, that he was treading upon tender and untenable ground. So totally at war is all history with the course which he has pursued, that we cannot believe his hopes looked forward to high and permanent distinction. A short-lived and momentary, but brilliant

existence, was all to which his most cherished expectations aspired.

In but one respect does the purgative treatment so universally recommended by him differ from the most popular patent medicines of the day. Swaim's *Panacea*, Potter's *Catholicon*, and Cooke's *Cava Pills* will, we are informed, to an almost infallible certainty, cure the long and dark catalogue of diseases to which humanity is heir. '*Cur moriatur homo cui salvia crescit in horto!*'

The frankness of Dr. Cooke is doubtless in a high degree commendable. He affects no concealment on the subject of his nostrum, and in this respect he differs from Swaim, Potter, &c. But permit me to say, I am aware of no reason which will authorize me to believe that his '*Cava Pills*' are the more sovereign on that account. It is of little consequence to the patient, whether he understand the different ingredients of a *recipe* or not, so he be cured. If a man is to be poisoned, it is little matter to him, whether it be done by arsenic or prussic acid. They are equally fatal.

The remarkable simplicity of Dr. Cooke's pathological hypothesis and the uniform sameness of his practice, are calculated in an eminent degree, and for an obvious reason to render them popular with students of medicine. Much studious labour is saved, and much deep reflection is rendered unnecessary. Qualities certain to be fascinating to those not too apt to overwork the intellectual powers. To be thoroughly acquainted with the diagnosis of disease, is not a species of knowledge that ranks very high in the halls of Transylvania. To confound one disease with another, is a matter of but little consequence: the sovereign virtues of the '*Cava Pills*' will speedily counteract all the evils of erroneous judgement.

But his theories are delusive, and three years of a practical acquaintance with disease, if not a much less time, will surely remove it. The author speaks from actual experience. He knows from personal observation that the disciples of Dr. Cooke will, to an infallible certainty, find, in a very few years, that they must either abandon his principles or relinquish all

hope of attaining respectability in the profession. In proof of this, I appeal to the history of his practical career, since his residence in the city of Lexington. No physician ever settled in Lexington under circumstances so propitious to the acquirement of extensive business in the profession, as Dr. Cooke; nor did any man ever obtained in so short a time, so large a practice. But what was the result? Did he retain it? No, indeed; and for years, his practice has been circumscribed within considerably more narrow limits than that of any physician in Lexington, if we except several of his brother Professors. What can be more conclusive? Are his disciples so unreasonable as to suppose, that they can sustain themselves in the daily prosecution of a system of treatment, which has utterly and irrecoverably prostrated its author?\*

Without prosecuting the discussion of this topic any further, though it is far from being exhausted, being one opulent in the materials of a much more protracted investigation, I flatter myself that I have succeeded in proving to the satisfaction of every individual who may honour these pages with a perusal, that numerous faults have been committed, and that their repetition is still encouraged, and which require immediate and radical correction. This being a fact, utterly incontestible, the necessity for the establishment of another and a better School of Medicine in the State of Kentucky, than the one in Lexington, must be regarded, by every impartial judge, as a postulate no longer open to controversy. If, therefore, those who engage in this enterprise determine to avoid the commission of those

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\*Convinced that the impolitic and insulting pamphlet of Dr. Caldwell, would raise a tempest, which would blow with great violence against certain members of the Transylvania Medical Faculty, and hearing the thunder already roaring awfully in the distant clouds, they determined to erect a Franklin-rod to protect Dr. Cooke from being scathed by the lightning.—Since this publication has been in the press, a medal was voted Dr. Cooke by the medical class, for the able and satisfactory manner in which he had discharged the duties of his department. The resolution tendering the medal passed against the efforts of a large and respectable dissentient minority. Strange to tell however, the medal was nothing more than an *Indian gift*; for the next day, the resolution was reconsidered and rescinded. Instead of the medal, a vote of thanks was given. A rather undesirable and unflattering exchange I presume.

faults already designated, and others more numerous and equally palpable, improvements must be effected in medical education of the greatest possible magnitude and importance. Improvements that will raise the standard of the profession; that will brighten the prospects of the aspiring and eminent physicians of the Western and Southern States; and completely revolutionize the charlatan treatment of disease, now too prevalent in the valley of the Mississippi.

Glaring and conspicuous as are the faults which I have enumerated, and absurd and ridiculous as it would be to suppose they were unknown to Dr. Caldwell, he still, with an assurance the most undaunted, asserts, that the competency of the Transylvania Medical Faculty, as a body, *has never been called in question*. This assertion he has admitted to be gratuitous; and, in a spirit of the utmost illiberality, he has denounced those who have done it, to be raggamuffins and fools. At every risk, I have reiterated the charge, and have sustained it too, upon a cloud of facts, as immutable and indestructible as the everlasting pillars of creation.

From the foundation of the School of Medicine in Transylvania up to the present moment, I have had a rather intimate intercourse with almost every class that has assembled in its halls. My opportunities of observation, therefore have, in some measure, qualified me to speak with some confidence, of the estimation in which its Medical Faculty, *as a body*, has been held. From the organization of the school in the year 1819, up to the spring of 1825, when Dr. Brown resigned, but little complaint was heard. An event took place in the summer of 1825, the evil effects of which, were sensibly experienced the ensuing winter. The complaints of the class became frequent, clamorous and indignant. Such conduct could not be misinterpreted: nor was the cause of it at all a matter of secrecy. Measures, extraordinary in their nature, but required by the occasion, were taken to produce tranquility. The influence of a distinguished Professor, for whom the students have never failed to manifest the most profound respect, succeeded in rendering those complaints, which had previously produced dis-

turbance in the class, less frequent, and less loud, but to stifle them altogether was impossible.

In the spring of 1827, Dr. Drake resigned his Professorship. When this happened, the Medical School received a stroke, from the evil effects of which, it has never recovered. The loss of such a man viewed in any light, was a severe calamity: and to replace him by such a man, as the present incumbent was to render the evils growing out of it tenfold more aggravated. From the moment of Dr. Drake's resignation up to the present time, the medical class has not ceased to pour forth one uninterrupted burst of indignant disapprobation. Nor did a recent appointment serve in the least to ameliorate the condition of things. From the day on which Dr. Brown ceased to be a professor in the Transylvania Medical School, up to the present moment, the disease has been growing daily more and more exasperated, until it is now regarded by all beyond the reach of any remedy. The loss of such men as Drs. Brown, Drake and Blythe was under any, even the most propitious circumstances, a calamity truly disastrous: but to attempt to remedy the evil by the appointment of such men as have succeeded them, was not less nugatory and idle than it was ridiculous and absurd.

From the foundation of the Transylvania Medical School, up to the time when Dr. Brown resigned, it continued progressively and perseveringly to increase in dignity, respectability and usefulness with a momentum perfectly unheard of and unparallelled. From the resignation of Dr. Brown, up to the present moment, (if we except the ensuing winter, when the manner in which the successor of Dr. Drake, for the latter was removed to the Chair vacated by Dr. Brown, would discharge the duties of his department was not known) the intellectual and professional decadency of the Medical Faculty has been rapid and frightful. The moment the blighting influence of favouritism was felt, or the ties of legal consanguinity, were regarded as recommendations in a Professor, that moment the charge of incompetency was heard to ring through the Halls of Transylvania. The charge was made in accents so loud,

and audible, as even to reach the startled ears of the frightened dignitaries themselves.

But am I asked, against whom is the charge at this time preferred? I answer against every member of the Faculty, with the exception of Dr. Dudley. In proof of this, I must remark, that it has been repeatedly and independently asserted, for the last four years by scores of students, that they would prefer giving Professor Dudley the whole fee of \$100 to hear him lecture in all the departments than to the six professors. Is not this intelligible—does it require any interpretation? This was an extravagant declaration, but it came warm and fresh from the heart, and was sincere. While it speaks volumes in praise of Dr. Dudley, it embraces a whole encyclopedia to the shame, confusion and disgrace of his coadjutors. Notwithstanding all this, we are gravely and confidently told that the competency of the Transylvania Medical *'Faculty, as a body'* *'has never been questioned'*—then Professor Dudley is that *'body.'*

Am I told that Dr. Caldwell, at least, is a fraction of that *'body?'* To the truth of such intelligence I unhesitatingly demur. The time has been when he was considered the Magnus Apollo of the Transylvania School of Medicine. His dogmatism was esteemed the soundest logic; his sophistry sense; his speculations philosophy; and his visions of fancy the revelations of an oracle. But that day has passed and gone, never more to return. His pupils, the public, and the press have indelibly stamped him with the character of a wild philosopher and an incredible romancer.

Some men live before their time; such were Harvey, Copernicus and Gallileo, while others live after it; such were Lavater, Camper and Gall. It is to the latter class Dr. Caldwell belongs: for having been cradled, as it were, in the wild and disorganizing skepticism of the French revolution, his early impressions will never be erased from his mind, or entirely forgotten. The doctrines, and most of the advocates of them of that period, have long since been buried in oblivion: still, however, Dr. Caldwell lingers amongst us, an illustrious example of human infatuation. The doctrine of solidism, to

establish which, his labors in early life contributed largely, is fast giving way to the progress of improvement; and now, although few physicians in the vigour of manhood avow or defend it, he still, as it fast sinks into oblivion, adheres to it with a more firm and uncompromising pertinacity. It is his stern devotion to the speculations of other days that destroys his usefulness as a public teacher.

To the obstinacy with which he clings, and the vehemence with which he still defends, obsolete and visionary hypotheses, is to be ascribed the impatience with which he is listened to as a lecturer. Nor is this impatience evinced by groans and murmurs, or the imperfectly stifled whisper. In loud and audible accents it has, with obstreperous violence, more than once shaken his hall. Few other individuals have been obliged to threaten the interposition of the civil authority to secure attention or command respect. The difficulties with which he has daily to contend, in the defence of opinions which long since should have been forgotten, or mentioned only in the eventful records of human imbecility, I allude to more in a spirit of deep and sincere sorrow, than from motives of rancour or personal animosity. While it affords me pleasure to contemplate and admire the glorious achievements of a great and a powerful mind, my humiliation and regret are profound and abiding when I see its noble faculties wasted in the pursuit of objects visionary and unprofitable.

In further proof of the allegation which I have brought against the Transylvania Medical Faculty, a sentiment, which is not only prevalent among the people at large, at least those who have reflected on the subject, but universal among students of medicine, should be particularly referred to. For the last four years, with the exception of the last few months, during which time efforts have been making in behalf of Centre Medical College, no one hesitated to say that it was Dr. Dudley, and Dr. Dudley alone, who sustained the school. It was the universal belief that his resignation or death would, to an infallible certainty, bring upon it immediate and irrecoverable ruin. Nor is this opinion gratuitous or unfounded. The erec-

tion of a rival institution is altogether unnecessary to achieve the destruction of the Transylvania Medical School. Not more fatal was the strength of Sampson to the Philistines, than would the resignation or death of Dr. Dudley be to the prospects of the 'body' of that Faculty, the competency of which, Dr. Caldwell informs us, has never been questioned. The assembling of the very next class, after the occurrence of either of those events, would fully verify the most dire vaticination. From about two hundred and fifty pupils, the succeeding winter the class would not number at the utmost, more than one hundred; and this would cause the halls of the Ohio Medical School to be crowded to overflowing.

The death or resignation of Dr. Dudley, would so cripple the energies of Transylvania, that she would be unable any longer to compete successfully with her Ohio rival. In truth, there would be no competition, so decidedly would the scale preponderate in favor of the Ohio Medical Professors, as well on account of *'their possession of the proper kind of knowledge,'* as in regard to the superiority of *'their mode of imparting it, both orally and in writing.'* The talents and attainments, as well as the professional efficiency of Professor Dudley, constitute the charm which renders the Medical School of Transylvania so fascinating to students of medicine. To him they look for instruction, and to him alone, like the mariner's needle, their hearts tremble as to their cyrosure.

After such developements, who will dare maintain the competency of the Transylvania Medical Faculty, as a *body*? A Faculty, whose strength and respectability are centred in one individual, and whose hopes of prosperity and future usefulness depend upon the precarious and brittle tenure of one man's life. Long may he live an ornament to his profession, an honour to his species, and a blessing to mankind; but die he must, and when he does, the sun of Transylvania's prosperity will set, and set forever.

'But it is believed,' says Dr. Caldwell, 'that a brief recital of what the School of Transylvania has done, will be at once its justest and highest encomium.' To this, we offer no ob-

jection. No appeal can be made which will contribute so much to establish the truth of the allegation we have ventured to make. Before we enter into details on this subject, the remarkable discrepancy of opinion which obtains between Dr. Caldwell and President Peers, in regard to the inference deducible from the length of a catalogue, should not go unnoticed. The latter justly observes, 'Let us never consent to have our prosperity measured by so precarious and fluctuating a criterion as the length of a catalogue.' It is a criterion, however, which, to Dr. Caldwell, is insistibly fascinating: a long catalogue and a *long purse*, are phrases obviously correlative.

The success of the Transylvania Medical School, during the first seven years from its foundation, was perfectly unexampled. The cause of this is manifest and undeniable. It had, during that period, and particularly after the election of Dr. Drake to the Professorship of *Materia Medica and Medical Botany*, not only an able Faculty, but one that could have fearlessly challenged a comparison with that of any other School of Medicine in the United States. Such men as Dudley, Drake, Brown, and what Dr. Caldwell was during that period, are not often met with; and to see such a bright galaxy of intellect and learning shedding lustre upon one school of medicine, is still more rare. Nor was there, during that period, such competition as to create the least apprehension. The existence of the Ohio Medical School was feeble, rickety and unencouraging, while that of South Carolina had not yet commenced operations. To the united agency of the causes just designated, must the brilliant success of the Transylvania Medical School, up to the epoch just alluded to, be unavoidably ascribed.

For the last eight years its success has been fluctuating: never has it, within that time, been so triumphant as in the winter of 1825 '26. The class of that session numbered upwards 280 students. In the short space, however, of two years, the class fell from 281 to 152—thus retrograding with almost the same unexampled rapidity as it had formerly advanced. Drs. Drake and Brown were now no longer in the school. Competition had now sprung up and it assumed a most

threatening aspect. In the winter of 1827 '28, when the number of students of medicine in Lexington was reduced to 152, in Cincinnati and Charleston there were highly respectable classes. From this, it is manifest, that with her feeble Faculty, Transylvania was unable to maintain her ground against the efforts of zealous competition.

From the operation of local causes altogether, the spirit of competition became comparatively pining and feeble, both in Cincinnati and Charleston. Disagreement among the professors, if I have been correctly informed, ceased to enable the schools, and particularly that of Charleston, to present their usual powers of attraction. From the winter of 1827 '28 the strength of the Medical Classes in Transylvania have been uncertain and fluctuating, sometimes on the increase and sometimes the reverse. The present session mustering the unusual number of 262 students. In correspondence with the increase of the classes in Transylvania, has competition diminished: this is particularly the case with Charleston, where, at present, there is no opposition made. Four of the chairs in that school are now vacant, and its concerns, if I have been correctly informed, are in a state of the greatest imaginable disorder and confusion. The recent success of Transylvania, therefore, is entirely owing to the disturbed state of the two rival schools. The evil influence which has presided over the affairs of those establishments, is what has saved her from destruction. Had a different system of medical politics been adopted; had unity of sentiment characterized their official proceedings, and friendly feelings pervaded the private intercourse of the professors, the Transylvania Medical School would now, to a certainty, be in a feeble, sickly, if not dying state. Sufficient, however, has been seen to prove that, if it should ever be her misfortune to have to contend openly, hand to hand, in the arena of competition, against a zealous, vigorous and able rival, her defeat and disgrace it would require no *Œdipus* to foretell.

With such a Faculty however, as she had in the winter of 1824-25, and eventhen, it might have been amended, she might now laugh defiance in the face of the fiercest opposition. She

would not now quail, as she does at the bare idea of another school of medicine. Such an enterprise would be a subject of mirth rather than of grave reflection and rebuke.

If I have proved that in the administration of the concerns of the Transylvania Medical School, faults have been committed of the first magnitude, which imperiously call for immediate and radical correction; and if the *Honourable Board of Trustees of Transylvania University*, are determined to make no effort to cleanse the Augean stable, the propriety of answering the following question of Dr. Caldwell:—‘Does the public interest call for another school of medicine in the State of Kentucky?’ in the affirmative, cannot for a moment be doubted.

If it be the interest of the public to have the science of medicine taught by the ablest men in the land; if it be their interest to have it taught soundly, thoroughly and completely and not superficially and imperfectly; if it be their interest to have the doors of the temple of science barred against the daring, mercenary and presumptuous intruder; if it be their interest to prevent the ignorant, grovelling and cringing upstart from grasping with dilacerating hands and Gothic violence, the highest honours in the gift of our scientific institutions, then every man not pledged by the ties of personal friendship or individual interest to sustain Transylvania’s tottering cause, is bound to say, there should be in the State of Kentucky, another and a better school of medicine.

To enable him to answer negatively the question which has just been propounded, Dr. Caldwell asks again:—‘Is it alleged that the erection of a rival school, would render the Professors of Transylvania more faithful and strenuous, in the discharge of their duties? To make the most of this, it is but a *conjecture*; and it is believed to be a mistaken one. On this point we hesitate not to differ with him, while it affords us much pleasure to find, that our sentiments accord most perfectly with those espoused by him on a former occasion. With characteristic consistency, he uses the following language, in allusion to the Ohio Medical School. ‘The existence of such a rival school in our neighbourhood *may do us much good, for it is un-*

*doubtedly calculated to call out our efforts, and to make our own institution more efficient and valuable.* Have these sentiments been recanted—has he sung their palinode? No, his obstinacy and pertinacity sternly repudiate a change of opinion: all therefore, that has been urged by him in his last publication, against the beneficial influence of competition is *'mere cant.'*

But we learn from this time serving disputant that, all that has been said and written about monopolies in teaching medicine, is mere cant. All that he has said and written, in defence of monopolies is not only cant, but ridiculous humbug. We know that for the encouragement and protection of genius monopolies are allowable. But such monopolies are temporary in their nature; and of this kind, are all the illustrations appealed to by Dr. Caldwell. In political economy, no such thing is known as a perpetual monopoly. Of what service then, I ask, would a temporary monopoly be to a school of medicine. All experience proves, that the longer it has been enjoyed the greater is the necessity for it. The school, of which Dr. Caldwell is the advocate, is a conclusive illustration of the truth of this. It has now been in existence fifteen years, and at this moment it stands more in need of the unjust privileges of monopoly, than it did eight years ago. The fact, therefore, that all monopolies are temporary in their nature, and as a temporary monopoly would be of little, if any benefit to a medical school, it follows that the illustrations adduced by Dr. Caldwell to support his argument, are not in point, and were only brought forward to deceive.

If a perpetual monopoly however, were allowable in any case, it would be odious, unjust and oppressive to grant it to a medical school. The natural and unavoidable result of such a grant, would be to encourage and foster that system of favouritism, which already operates like a blight on the prosperity of too many scientific institutions. Give to any establishment the exclusive right of teaching medicine, and what motive will be left to induce the professors to have the vacant Chairs, as they occur, filled by able and competent teachers. Under no apprehension of being surpassed by a more vigorous rival insti-

tution, their passions and prejudices and partialities will be consulted in the election of teachers, much more than the cause of justice, the interests of science, or the claims of human affliction.

Once the professorships in a medical school, get into the hands of inferior teachers, it will be almost impossible for a man of first rate abilities to procure an appointment. This arises, from an obvious and natural cause. Such Charlatan teachers conscious of their inferiority, will ever be disinclined to permit their insignificance to be rendered the more conspicuous, by being contrasted with the enlarged powers and extensive attainments of a really great man. Thus genius is excluded from all opportunity of distinguishing itself, while stupidity is raised to the highest honours in the profession. While the former lives and dies in pining beggary, the latter are permitted to enjoy the most extravagant emoluments.

The evil, of which we have complained, gave rise to the following appropriate remarks of Dr. Caldwell. He informs us, 'professors are usually the creatures of accident; or, what is less creditable, of *management and intrigue*; and are often supported by the reputation, and irradiated by the lustre, of those they succeed.' Those who hold professorships at present in Transylvania, too forcibly and conclusively teach us the undeniable truth of this allegation. A distinguished teacher remarked to Professor Pattison, *'If, sir, we were to elect CORK PROFESSORS TO FILL THE VACANT CHAIRS in ———, it would not diminish the number of our pupils; she has gained a reputation, and this will fill her theatres with students.'* This is so like him, and so graphically portrays the character of a certain Faculty, that I have yet to be convinced that this information was not derived from Dr. Caldwell.

For any scientific institution to set up a claim to the exclusive right of teaching any particular branch of learning, virtually makes a tacit, but unequivocal avowal that its professors are unable to give instruction either ably or successfully. The really qualified would blush to ask for a privilege so palpably unjust, while if unsolicited, it were proffered to the highmind-

ed, honourable and able, it would be indignantly rejected as at once insulting and disgraceful. No power should have the right to confer such privileges and advantages other than that, which flows legitimately from the possession of zeal, talents and attainments. A monopoly which such qualities as are here enumerated will bestow, it would be fair and honourable to receive. To expect or desire patronage, and respect, on any other ground is base, preposterous and absurd.

What has been the conduct of the London University on this subject? Has it made application for any exclusive or odious privileges? No. Organized under the auspices of some of the greatest men of the age, it was contended that talents and knowledge, could alone confer permanent renown upon any school of medicine: they, therefore, absolutely declined taking out a regal charter. What has shed such lustre upon the character of the Edinburgh School of Medicine? Any of the unhallowed prerogatives of monopoly? The school that can look back upon a long and illustrious line of teachers, such as the Monros, the Duncans, the Gregorys, the Hamiltons, Black and Cullen, would be insulted at the question. Nor, need we look farther for the cause of the superior splendour and celebrity of the Pennsylvania School of Medicine, than to the names of Wistar, Barton, Rush, Physick, Chapman, and numerous others but little less distinguished. The school that cannot sustain itself independently of any assistance derived from exclusive privilege, is utterly unworthy the patronage of the public, and the sooner it ceases to exist, the better for the cause of honesty and the interests of medical science.

The spirit of monopoly is utterly repugnant to the spirit of our free institutions, and should be at once stifled and exterminated. Will our Legislators dare grant such odious privileges to any corporate body as must disfranchise any of her free and respectable citizens? Will they dare deny any man the right to make the most profitable use of his talents and attainments? Will they say, if you would seek fame or fortune, in the State of Kentucky; if you would be extensively useful to your fellow-citizens, you must do it in the halls of Transylva-

nia, or abandon the land of your nativity and seek the objects of your ambition, as an exile and a wanderer amongst aliens, and strangers to the nature of your feelings, and perhaps, not less deadly enemies to your rising hopes and fondest expectations. Language, or sentiments so detestible and tyrannical, no Legislature in the United States, would dare to utter. More than this the great Russian Autocrat could not do.

After supposing he had demonstrated 'that the public interest does not require another school of medicine in the State of Kentucky,' he asks, 'Is it consistent with good faith and sound policy, in the Legislature, to authorize the establishment of one?' That such a measure would be inconsistent 'with good faith,' he deduces from the fact, that three of the professors came from distant States, and one 'from a remote part of the State of Kentucky'—'on the invitation of the State, and, as they firmly believed, on its *virtually pledged faith*, that as long as they should continue to *perform their duties, as teachers, to public satisfaction*, nothing would be unnecessarily done by legislative authority, to *injure the institution, and perhaps ruin them.*'

That no such pledge as is here mentioned, was either expressed or implied by the *Trustees of Transylvania University*, or by the State from which they derive their authority in the invitation given to the individuals alluded to, is a truth clearly and conclusively illustrated and enforced by the policy observed by other States on the same subject. In all instances, precedents exert a more or less binding influence, and in regard to medical schools, we look upon them as being particularly obligatory. For the last thirty years there has been a Medical School in the City of Baltimore; yet, when application was made by the Washington Medical College to the Legislature of Maryland, the members of that body did not consider the faith of the State pledged to her old and celebrated school of medicine not to grant an act of incorporation, which empowers the Faculty, in conjunction with a Board of Visitors, to confer degrees in medicine under the authority of the State. It should be remarked, also, that Washington Medical

College had previously acted under the charter of Washington College, in the State of Pennsylvania, and was, moreover, located in the same city where a celebrated medical school had for years flourished. To neither of these objections, if indeed they are such, is Centre Medical College obnoxious. She acts under the charter of a College in the State, and is to be located in a city eighty miles from Lexington.

A similar act of incorporation was granted to Jefferson Medical College, by the Legislature of Pennsylvania. In this instance, the College under whose charter it had previously acted, is two hundred and fifty miles from Philadelphia, where it was located, and along side also of a State Medical School. Acts of incorporation of a similar kind, have been passed by other Legislatures. Thus, in the State of New York there are two schools of medicine, both of which are connected with the State University. One is located in the City of New York, and the other in Fairfield, in the Western District. In the State of Vermont, there is, besides the Vermont Medical School, a medical institution in Castleton. In the State of Massachusetts, there is, besides a Massachusetts Medical School, a school of medicine in Pittsfield. The Harvard Medical School is located in Boston, although Harvard University is in Cambridge. Other illustrations might be adduced to prove that all that has been written about a '*virtually pledged faith,*' is *mere cant*.

But for argument sake, let us admit that the faith of the State of Kentucky was pledged to those individuals invited from abroad. What does it prove? Have they continued to perform their duties as teachers, to public satisfaction? We have already furnished the reader with a prompt and sufficient answer to this question. If they have not, the State is absolved from all obligation to them. If any such obligation ever did exist, it has been by their own, but I admit unavoidable conduct, utterly and forever cancelled. They have forfeited their fabulous privileges, and deserve countenance and support no longer. They should be forced to retire from stations for which nature never designed them, that competent

men may receive such honors as have been fairly won, but from the enjoyment of which they have been excluded by the basest intrigue and the most profligate collusion.

It is perfectly absurd to suppose that any State Legislature in this great and free confederacy of equal rights and unfettered privileges, has any constitutional power to legislate any citizen out of the fair and honorable proceeds of his physical or intellectual industry. The policy of the age in which we live, independently of the character of our republican institutions, is averse to the exercise of any such despotic authority. We, therefore, hold it to be true, that in the invitation which was given to those individuals who came from other States to join their fortunes with those of Transylvania, no other guarantee was either expressed or implied than what all men emulous of fame can secure, by the indefatigable exertion of high intellectual powers, and the display of extensive and profound knowledge.

If the sacrifices of fortune and reputation, which have been with such immodest ostentation and parade pompously blazoned forth, are to have any influence in the decision of the point now under discussion, let us enquire into the probable extent to which they have been made. To what serious inconvenience has Dr. Cooke been subjected? Had he reputation to sacrifice? He had;—he was favorably known for the first time in the year 1824, by an able *Prize Essay on Epidemic Fevers*. Could a removal to Lexington rifle him of the honor won by this achievement? No one will affirm it. The laurels gathered on that occasion could only be made to fade and wither by subsequent ill-advised efforts. This has too fatally happened.

Nor could a removal to Lexington, under circumstances so auspicious to success, have tended to curtail his pecuniary resources. He exchanged a town which numbers only thirty-five hundred people for a city that contains a population of upwards of six thousand. Here was consequently presented a field for the display of skill, and the acquirement of business, nearly twice as large as that from which he removed. When we add to this the size of the classes which had assembled in

the halls of Transylvania for several years previous to his appointment, we may say he had an almost certain guarantee of a salary of three thousand dollars. Such sacrifices, therefore, as were made by Dr. Cooke, do not often produce professional or pecuniary bankruptcy.

Pray, what heart-rending sacrifices were made by the Tennessean? Had he reputation to lose? If we except the distinction which he obtained on account of his hyperbolical puffs and eulogistic reviews of the writings of Caldwell and Cooke, which never would have been admitted into any other journal on the American continent but that of Transylvania, it must be confessed that he had not. In regard to pecuniary matters what sacrifices did he make? From the time he graduated in Baltimore, up to the present moment, his annual receipts, if we have been correctly informed, have never amounted to one thousand dollars. This I admit he has lost, and, while he remains amongst the enlightened people of Lexington, I presume it will never be regained. But this he does not regret, for the receipts of the chemical chair border on four thousand dollars. Moreover, he has eight months in every year of *otium cum dignitate*, as a perfect sinecure.

The Kentuckian who removed from a remote part of the State sacrificed, I know, a respectable practice, and for this the people of Lexington have never indemnified him. He receives annually a *bonus*, however, of four thousand dollars, which has served no doubt to cicatrize many wounds occasioned by mortification and disappointment. We cannot believe, therefore, that any complaint will be made by him on the score of pecuniary loss, in serious earnest. Nor will he boast of the sacrifice of reputation. Though respectable as a practitioner, beyond the circumscribed limits of a village business he was unknown in the profession, except to a few personal friends, previous to his election to a professorship in Transylvania.

To establish another school of medicine, and thus curtail his profits, would be, in the case of the Pennsylvanian, particularly hard and oppressive. He joined his colleagues, and com-

menced his labors, with a very small class, and corresponding profits.' The class, it is true, was small, but it is false to assert that the profits were also. For several years after the foundation of the school, Dr. Caldwell was guaranteed by the citizens of Lexington, an annual salary of two thousand dollars. This sum he not only received the first year, but the additional sum of seven hundred and fifty dollars from the students.\* 'Had they' (the Professors,) says Dr. Caldwell, 'been salary officers, whose pay would continue, though the school might dwindle, the whole complexion and nature of their engagement with the State, and their relation to it, would have been different.' In the event, therefore, of the establishment of another medical school, Dr. Caldwell will not have, according to his own logic, the shadow of a pretext to complain.

Uninfluenced as he would have us believe, by pecuniary considerations, the generous behaviour of Dr. Caldwell is forcibly illustrated by the fact, that 'He resorted to it (the Transylvania School of Medicine,) on an experiment *deemed by every one, uncertain and hazardous. The current of opinion was decidedly against the probability of success.*' If such in truth were the fact at the time alluded to, the conduct of Dr. Caldwell could not be exhibited in a light too commendable or flattering; but let us hear from his own lips what was then in fact the state of feeling. In his 'Inaugural Address,' after descanting on the inconveniences of a visit to any of the Atlantic schools of medicine by the Western student, we are informed that 'It has, accordingly, for many years, been *sincerely lamented by the people of the West, in whispers first, in murmurs afterwards, and ultimately in complaints emphatical and loud. In active and strong collision with their sentiments and sympathies, no less than their in-*

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\*Moreover, since writing the above, we have learned from a source of unimpeachable veracity, that the fees of tuition were to have been deducted from the sum guaranteed, and the deficit only, whatever it might be, was to be paid by the citizens of Lexington. By this distinct understanding Dr. Caldwell would not abide. He not only pocketed the fees, but he demanded and received \$6000 besides. Thus, for three courses of lectures, he received \$11,685, which is \$5685 more than he bargained for.

terests, it has awakened in them a general and increasing desire, that measures should be adopted to bring it to a close.<sup>2</sup>

But 'another medical school' would, we are told, lower the tone of medical education. This objection we have redargued by the quoted sentiments of Dr. Caldwell, in reference to the benefits which certainly result from competition. It is refuted also by the high standard of the profession in New England, where there are numerous medical schools and the most active and zealous competition; by its condition in Philadelphia and Baltimore, in both of which cities there are two schools of medicine; by its condition in London and Paris, where every hospital is a school of medicine; by its condition in Scotland, where a population of a little more than two millions support four medical schools, and one of them amongst the most celebrated in the world.

The erection of another medical school in the Valley of the Mississippi, will, we are well convinced, curtail the profits of teaching in Transylvania. But this is a minor consideration, when we recollect by whom it is done. With one or two exceptions, their emoluments far exceed their merits. But were we to admit them to be able and meritorious, would this prove that they have a right to engross the teaching of medicine, to the exclusion of men equally able and meritorious? The pecuniary emoluments of a professor of medicine should not be looked upon as the chief consideration with him. His exertions should spring from a holier cause, and his hopes should be inspired by a higher and nobler ambition. Fame, because of the blessings which it enables him to confer on mankind, should stimulate him to the active discharge of his duties more than the prospect of fortune. Nor do I believe that, in the breast of a truly great man, motives so diametrically opposite, will equilibrate for a moment. The former will assert its power and shed its bewildering ascendancy over him. So true is this, that I do not believe in the annals of letters can be found a more base and unprincipled libel upon human nature than is couched in the following language:—'Talk as we may of disinterested benevolence, patriotism, philanthropy,

and an abstract love of science, it is *only talk.*' On this subject Mr. Burke remarks, and I imagine his sentiments will have as much weight with most persons as the hypothetical views of Dr. Caldwell:—'*Money is made for the comfort and convenience of animal life. It cannot be a reward for what mere animal life must indeed sustain, but never can inspire.*'

History abounds with illustrious exemplifications of the truth of the sentiment uttered by Mr. Burke. Individuals in any number may be there found, whose conduct it would be unfair and ungenerous to ascribe to motives exclusively selfish or mercenary. Was it from motives of a selfish nature that induced Luther, Calvin, Huss, Wickliffe and a thousand other christians, to brave the fury of an enraged multitude? What sordid motive inspired the muse of Milton, Tasso, Butler, Thomson, Savage and a hundred other poets, who perished in a state of absolute beggary? Was it a love of self that caused Socrates to drink the hemlock; Pythagoras to be banished from Athens; Aristides to be ostracised; Gallileo to retract upon his knees and in prison, those splendid truths which have rendered his name immortal; and Columbus to be loaded with chains and pine in a dungeon?

Though a few singular and celebrated examples to the contrary may be adduced, even physicians have loftier motives to animate and encourage them than such as are exclusively mercenary. Was it selfishness that induced Harvey to publish his discovery of the circulation of the blood, and thus expose himself to the most malignant abuse and unrelenting persecution? Was it a love of money that operated upon Darwin, Akenside and Armstrong, when they published their poems, at the sacrifice of a business both extensive and lucrative? Had Hodges been mercenary would he have died a bankrupt and in prison? Did Mercurialili consult his personal interest, when in the sixteenth century, he ventured to deny the contagiousness of plague, and thus brought upon himself the intolerance of the priesthood and the denunciations of his brethren? Would Dr. Caldwell, like Dr. Mead, have procured the liberation of his friend and competitor, Dr. Friend, and then have presented

him with a considerable sum of money received from his patients during his imprisonment in the tower? Was it from a motive sordid in its nature, that induced Dr. Rush to incur the displeasure of the people and the persecution of his brethren, by declaring, in the year 1793, the existence of Yellow Fever in the City of Philadelphia? Is he not one amongst a hundred physicians who have been either imprisoned, otherwise ill-treated, and even put to death, for similar acts of noble disinterestedness? I leave it to the generosity of Dr. Caldwell to respond to these inquiries.

‘To learn to teach medicine perfectly,’ we are told that ‘far from being, as some seem to think it, the pastime of a few years spent lightly, or in the bustle of business, is the work of a life time devoted to study.’ In the truth of this assertion we have the utmost faith, and we regret to see that it has had so little practical influence over the appointments which have been made in the Transylvania School of Medicine. We also regret to have again to remark the inconsistency of Dr. Caldwell. When it is his object to render the ‘*crudeness of early manhood*’ odious and disreputable, to ‘learn to teach’ medicine ‘*is the work of a life time,*’ but when he undertakes to defend or rather to apologise for the shameful appointment of his puffer and reviewer, he asks, ‘Will it be said that Dr. Yandell is young?’ He answers with ridiculous effrontery, ‘*So much the better.*’

It is taken *pro confesso* by Dr. Caldwell, that the erection of another school of medicine in Kentucky would render the schools so small that the receipts from teaching would be insufficient to support a family in comfort. Let us investigate the truth of this assertion. There are at this time in attendance on medical lectures in the cities of Cincinnati and Lexington three hundred and eighty students. Divide this number by three, as this would be the number in the event of the establishment of another medical school, and each of them would have to suppose an equal distribution to take place from 125 to 130 pupils. This would yield, at the present price of teaching, each professor from eighteen hundred to two thou-

sand dollars for every course of medical lectures. From the unparalleled rapidity with which the Valley of the Mississippi is filling up with population, and the daily increasing demand for physicians, we may reasonably conclude that in the year 1844 there will be nearer six hundred and fifty than four hundred students requiring instruction.

But let us compare the salary which every teacher in the three medical schools, would receive at this time with the compensation of most of our government officers. Our Circuit Judges, who are generally men of liberal education, fine talents and much experience, receive an annual salary of one thousand dollars. For this inconsiderable sum, they are engaged with few and short intermissions the whole year; they are much of their time from home, and they submit to heavy sacrifices of both feeling and money. Our Judges of the Court of Appeals, who are usually selected on account of the splendour of their talents, and the profundity of their legal knowledge, receive annually, only fifteen hundred dollars. Our Governor on account of the large concourse of persons, who visit the seat of Government is obliged to submit to the heaviest expenditures, receives but two thousand dollars. If such men as have been alluded to, are willing, for such salaries as have been mentioned, to give their whole time, throughout the whole year, and at the same time suffer numerous privations, what right have inferior men, put to but comparatively little trouble, to exact a large sum for only four months.

When we reflect that such men as Webster, Clay, Calhoun and McDuffie, willingly relinquish the profits of an honourable and lucrative profession, travel hundreds of miles, remain several months from home, exiled from all the connubial endearments of domestic life, for a much less sum of money, we can form some idea of the unreasonable demands of our teachers of medicine. When we call to mind the sacrifices to which the officers of the Executive Departments of the National Government are subjected, in accepting office; the nature of the duties they have to perform; the heavy expenses to which they have to submit, and the precarious and uncertain tenure

of office and compare them with the salaries received by medical professors, we shall be still further satisfied of the absurdity of Dr. Caldwell's argument.

In addition to the fees of teaching, the Professor, from the dignity of his station, will, if he have talents and be known for his attainments, be able to command a large and lucrative practice. With too such ample pecuniary resources under his control, he should be able, not only to support a family comfortably, but to live like a Nabob.

But it will be said that the duties of a teacher of medicine are such, as not to permit him to attend to practice. Then I say, he is not fit for a Professor. The reason assigned, is sophistical and like most of those urged by Dr. Caldwell, it has a direct leaning towards self. On this very account, we maintain that the salary of a Professor should not be exorbitant. It should never be so large as to make him independent of the proceeds of his practice. A principal duty of a teacher of medicine, is to protect the student from the adoption of error, and from being imposed on by misrepresentation. This can never be successfully accomplished, but by the eminently practical physician. To whom will the student appeal to have a doubtful pathological principle settled? To the man who reasons altogether from books? No, certainly: but to the physician who, with the scalpel in his hand, is in the daily habit of making pathological researches. To whom will he go for the solution of a practical problem? To the book-worm? As well might you expect the student who had read a work on navigation to steer a vessel upon the stormy deep. You must go to the physician in actual practice. Hypotheses may deceive—observation rarely ever will. The rapid advances which are daily making in pathology, and the numerous changes which are constantly being introduced into the treatment of disease, render this indispensable.

But the honours of a school so small, as not to number more than one hundred and twenty-five or thirty pupils, 'will not satisfy the ambition of a high-minded, and well qualified Professor, who is conscious of his powers,' or rather the cupidity of

a grovelling, mercenary intruder, inordinately greedy of pecuniary gain. If honours are to be estimated by the length of a catalogue, or the weight of a purse, I admit the truth of the declaration of Dr. Caldwell; but if they are to be determined by the faithfulness, with which a teacher discharges his duties; by the improvements which he effects in the profession; by his achievements in science, or by the accomplishments of those he graduates; by the ardour with which they cultivate medicine in after life, or by the conquests they obtain over disease, then I deny the infallibility of his standard. The physician, who is prompted to the discharge of his duties by no other more noble motive than pecuniary gain, will never become able in his profession.—Nor will the Professor whose object is, in assembling a large class, exclusively mercenary, ever bequeath a lasting name to an admiring posterity.

Is it paltry gain which induces our Senators and Congressmen, to relinquish the profits of a lucrative profession, to forego the pleasures of domestic life, and to submit to great bodily and intellectual toil? Propound the question to a Clay, a Webster, or a Calhoun and it would be answered in language loudly expressive, of indignant insult. To classes as small, and even smaller have Hosack, Godman, Post, Pattison, Potter and Gibson lectured. Nor did they regard the field too circumscribed for the display of their powerful minds, or the objects to be obtained too lowly and humble to awaken the highest efforts of ambition.

If the field for distinction, such as I have designated be too small for the exertion of talent, or to arouse ambition let them demonstrate it, and they will not go unrewarded. Let the broad pinions of rumour waft their names across the great Allegany—let their fame echo and re-echo along the shores of the Atlantic, and there their claims will be recognized and appreciated. Such has already been the case. Drake from the banks of the Ohio, and Dudley from the interior of Kentucky have been invited to schools of medicine in the Eastern States. Then I would say do not despair—the day may yet come, when such distinction may be that of Dr. Caldwell.

The competition between rival schools in the same city, it is said, has never proved wholesome in its results. Though we are not an advocate of the establishment of more than one school in a city, the assertion of Dr. Caldwell is a gratuitous conjecture. In the city of Paris, there is an ancient and celebrated school of medicine, while every Hospital in that noble city, is a school for medical instruction. In the latter lectures are delivered as regularly as in the University. The zeal and ardour, with which medical science is there cultivated, are worthy of the highest admiration, while the spirit and activity, with which competition is prosecuted by those emulous of fame, are not surpassed in any other city on the globe. Where such a constellation of talent is collected to attract attention and command respect, the lecturer must exhibit peculiar excellence indeed. What has been the result? Physiology has been enriched by numerous discoveries; pathology has been reformed; surgery has been simplified and improved; and chemistry has been made to assume the character of a dignified and comprehensive science.

Nor has a spirited rivalry failed to shed its beneficent influence over the condition of the profession in London. In that city, medical science has for years flourished in a very high degree and its condition is daily improving. Besides her University, her numerous hospitals are so many schools of medicine.

In Edinburgh the standard of the profession is higher than in any other part of Scotland, and perhaps as high as in any city in Great Britain. There the struggle between the public and private lecturers cannot be surpassed in zeal, energy and enterprise. For supremacy each lecturer contends, and it has been productive of results of the greatest moment and importance. Were I to allude to Dublin, it would be but to repeat what has been said of the cities of London and Edinburgh.

Does Philadelphia offer an argument hostile to the opinion, we have avowed? Dr. Caldwell has answered in the affirmative. A sketch of the history of the Pennsylvania University will decide this mooted point. We are told that this institu-

tion existed for more 'than half a century without a rival.' This is a mistake. Within forty years, she had two zealous and respectable competitors. During this forty years of undisputed sway, what did she accomplish? Her strongest class did not exceed two hundred pupils. Patronized by a population of nearly seven millions, she scarcely affected the deep and broad current, that sat towards the European Schools. Her teachers were able, but money could not stimulate them to exertion. They were at the head of the profession in the United States, and consequently had no aspirant to overtake or rival to surpass them.

But what did not the Pennsylvania University achieve, after medical schools had been established, in both New York and Baltimore. Did her classes dwindle—did the honours and the profits of the school become too small to 'satisfy the ambition of high-minded and well qualified' teachers, conscious of their powers? No one will assert it. She had the materials, and they only wanted igniting. She had a faculty opulent in talent and magnificent in attainment. Men who only needed to feel the stimulus of necessity. They saw rival institutions rising on each side of them. Did they shrink from the contest? Did they pusillanimously quail before the fierce frown of opposition? Did they cravenly prate about narrow, selfish, corporation privileges. No, indeed. They arose in the majesty of genius, and in the overwhelming power of knowledge. What was the result? In less than twelve years, her halls contained five hundred pupils. The tide which had before flowed in so broad a current towards Europe, almost ceased. Thus we see, that though forty years of unmolested monopoly could not bring more than two hundred students to Philadelphia, less than twelve of active rivalry crowded her halls with not less than five hundred.

The appeal of Dr. Caldwell to New England, in proof of his allegation, that competition has not proved beneficial to 'the science, or the profession,' is unavailing. It has a population of less than two millions and a half, and yet it sustains no less

than six medical schools, containing upwards of five hundred students. Has the standard of the profession been lowered in consequence of it. An affirmative response would be false and slanderous. In no portion of the Union, the physicians are taken as a body, so able as scholars, or so extensively and thoroughly acquainted with the profession. How can this be—the fees of the professors are less than they are in any other part of the Union, and the classes smaller? The reason of this is obvious. There, more effort has been made to raise the standard of the profession, than any where else in the United States. A solemn compact was entered into by the Medical Schools of New England, not to graduate any candidate who might be defective in either elementary, or classical learning. This is the cause of the high standard of the profession in that enlightened portion of the Union. What high salaries and large classes have failed to do, has been accomplished in New England by a proper regard to scholastic education.

Dr. Caldwell has argued that the multiplication of medical schools will prove prejudicial in the United States, because fewer have been established in Europe, in proportion to the population. This argument is fallacious, as investigation will prove. In Great Britain, instead of four there are six medical schools, while in addition medicine is taught at Oxford and Cambridge, as well as in all the hospitals; in France, instead of three there are nine, and formerly as many as eighteen; and in Germany no less than twenty-five flourish, and in no country in the world is the standard of the profession higher.

But there are causes in Europe to prevent the multiplication of medical schools, that do not exist in the U. States. While education in the former is not so general as in the latter, the honours of the doctorate are conferred upon those in the latter, who never receive them in the former. In Europe, and particularly in France and Germany the candidate must be a scholar, but in the United States this is considered in a great measure superfluous. On this account the ranks of the profession in the latter are crowded by individuals, who never would be admitted to a degree in the former. This causes students as

well as medical schools to be more numerous in the United States than in Europe.

The demand for physicians in the United States, in proportion to the population is greater than in Europe. Our population is more scattered, and a great portion of it is to be found in new countries, scarcely yet redeemed from the wilderness. Like all other unopened countries, the diseases of the new States and Territories, are more prevalent and more violent than in those that are older. From these causes the same number of physicians are not able to attend to, as many patients in the United States as in Europe.

The population to the square mile in Great Britain, is one hundred and eighty; in France one hundred and forty nine; in Germany one hundred: while in the United States, but three of the States exceed forty-one, and no fewer than thirteen have less than twenty to the square mile. Thus we see, that just in proportion to the decrease in the density of population, are medical schools multiplied in Europe. We also see, that in Great Britain one physician can do as much practice as four or five; in France, as much as three or four; and in Germany, as much as two or three can do in the United States. It is therefore, clearly established, that we require at least three times as many physicians, and three times as many medical schools, in proportion to the population in the United States as they do in Europe.

We learn from Dr. Caldwell, that the reason why 'the standard of the profession is so high' in Great Britain and France, is 'because the teachers are able, well paid, and highly honoured.' We admit the ability with which European teachers discharge their duties, and it will be clearly seen that the standard of the profession in the different parts of Europe, is in perfect correspondence with the degree of ability displayed in teaching, and not in a ratio corresponding with their pecuniary profits. Thus Great Britain is the only country in Europe, in which the professors, according to the ideas of Dr. Caldwell, are 'paid well.' But is the standard of the profession higher there, than in other European countries? No:

And no one conversant with the subject will affirm it. It is decidedly lower than in either France or Germany. So true is this, that crowds of students leave Great Britain, to be educated in the continental schools of medicine.

In France the professors are badly paid, if we compare the salaries they receive, with what is paid to teachers of medicine in Great Britain, and in the United States. In the Parisian School of Medicine, the salary for each professor is fixed by government, at three thousand francs, and the perquisites, which are inconsiderable. In Germany it is still less. We are, therefore, driven to the unavoidable conclusion, that the emoluments of teaching have had no influence in giving the profession in France or Germany, an ascendancy so decided, and obvious, over what it is in Great Britain.

We agree with Dr. Caldwell, that the honours conferred on medical men in Europe, are a powerful incentive to exertion: they are such, as are unknown to the profession in the United States. An 'ordinnance' recently appeared, conferring the decoration of the *Legion of Honour*, on M. M. Rostan, Biett, Lallemand, Andral *filis*, Chomel and Barruel. Not many months previously, several physicians of Paris, were created Barons. The document above mentioned, is followed by a report from the Minister of the Interior to the King, from which the following is extracted. 'Medicine is at once the noblest of the sciences, and the most useful of professions—nevertheless, it offers but few resources to those who practice, or to those who teach it. By the very nature of their pursuits, physicians seem to be in some degree, excluded from the ordinary paths of ambition. It is therefore just, that government should bestow upon them a large share of the honours, awarded to merit.' While we regret, that we have not such powerful motives to exertion, as are enjoyed by the physicians of Europe, we should not permit the unpropitiousness of our circumstances, to engender an apathetic indifference, on the subject of medical education, or induce us to become enslaved to that cold and calculating policy, which considers money as the only satisfactory reward of ambitious, intellectual exertion. Let the orna-

ments and benefactors of the profession look for justice, and remuneration to an impartial and generous posterity.

In order to swell the importance and make it appear that the influence of Transylvania has been felt beyond the legitimate boundaries of the Valley of the Mississippi, we are pompously told that one fourth of her pupils are drawn from the Atlantic States. This is true, but it would be well to designate which of those States in particular. These will be found to be Virginia, South and North Carolina, and Georgia. If Dr. Caldwell will take a survey of a map, he will at once discover that from all the points in those States from which students come to Transylvania, the journey is not, on an average, more than half the distance that it is either to Philadelphia, Baltimore or New York. Nor is travelling to, or a residence in Lexington, much more than half as expensive as in either of the cities alluded to. Such considerations, with others that should not be named, are sufficiently satisfactory to explain why students come to the latter in preference to going to the former, without resolving it into the dull, glimmering light reflected by the Transylvania Medical School.

The multiplication of medical schools will render them all such dwarfish establishments as to induce the young men to treat them *'with scorn and neglect, and go elsewhere for instruction.'* We hold this to be pure humbug. The high-minded and ambitious student, not prevented by restricted pecuniary circumstances, will resort to the school most celebrated for the thoroughness and profundity of the course of instruction given, without a special reference to the size of the classes, or the pecuniary emoluments of the teachers. Of the truth of this, New England furnishes the most conclusive proof. There are in those States, containing a population a little upwards of two millions, no less than six, and, I believe, eight medical schools. But two of them number as many as one hundred pupils. In those schools there are no less than five hundred pupils. So far, indeed, from having gone *'elsewhere for instruction,'* but a few scattering New England names can be found on the catalogues of other schools, while from the surrounding States they

receive a very respectable support. We discover, therefore, that Dr. Caldwell's argument is a most superficial conjecture: so much so, in fact, that it is the reverse of the truth precisely.

The multiplication of medical institutions will so reduce the profits of teaching as to cause it to *'be surrendered to incompetent men, and the profession will lose cast.'* We again appeal to New England. But two of its six schools, we repeat, have ever numbered as many as one hundred pupils; nor does a full course of lectures in any of them cost more than half the fee in Transylvania. Has teaching in New England been *'surrendered to incompetent men?'* Or, has it there lost *'cast?'* On these points the reader has already received satisfaction.

The Transylvania Medical Professors receive more than four times as much as any teacher of medicine in either France or Germany. Has medical education in those countries been *'surrendered to incompetent men?'* or has it, in either of them, lost *'cast?'*

It is indeed humiliating to see a man of Dr. Caldwell's talents and acquirements; a man whose thoughts should soar to a sightless distance above such grovelling considerations, and whose affections should be fixed upon more noble and enduring objects, so exclusively mercenary. With him money is the all powerful, soul-moving lever of Archimides. *'To talk'* about any other motive animating to intellectual exertion, is mere *'talk.'* This spirit has been derived from our British progenitors. It is the principal cause why the standard of the profession in England, Ireland and Scotland, is so much lower than it is in France and Germany. Nor need we seek for any other cause of its comparatively degraded condition in the United States.

Before any thing great can be done on a large scale, this prejudicial spirit must be quenched. We have no honors to reward us or to stimulate us to exertion: such, at least, as they have in Europe. Let us then be animated to a zealous cultivation of the science, by that most powerful of all stimuli, an inextinguishable love of fame. There are those, doubtless,

actuated by other and meaner motives, but to bequeath a name to posterity is the all engrossing theme of the truly great man's thoughts. Let its acquirement be rendered as difficult as possible by the multiplication of candidates, all anxiously emulous of distinction, and let those know who bear off the prize, that they have triumphed over industry, zeal, talents and knowledge. This, powerful competition will accomplish. If it fails to elevate us to a level with our brethren of Europe, we are destined by the irreversible decrees of fate forever to trudge on sluggishly in the subaltern walks of the profession.

Let fame and not fortune be the hallowed object of a medical teacher's ambition, and the aspect of the profession will soon discover the traces of its beneficent influence. Were this the case to the honor of a professorship, the incompetent would not aspire. Brought into collision with able men, fame they could not win, nor in a medical school would they look for fortune. The mercenary intruder would be banished the haunts of science. To bring such a man into the society of men ennobled by an abstract love of reputation, would be like the attempt of Milton's Satan to introduce into the pure region of Heaven, 'strange fire, his own invented torment.'

Dr. Caldwell, after having abortively attempted to demonstrate that the establishment of another medical school in Kentucky would be impolitic, undertakes to prove that the local advantages of Lexington are superior to those of Louisville. In prosecution of this idle and absurd enterprise, he ventures to deny the assertion that Louisville is more accessible to students of medicine than Lexington. This he denies, upon the ground that 'the low stage of water in the Ohio, and the difficulty and comparative danger of navigating it in autumn, the time at which the classes assemble,' renders the latter 'easier of access' than the former. Let us hear what the same author, so remarkable for the consistency of his opinions, said on nearly the same subject on a former occasion. When it was his purpose to prove 'that between the maritime district of this great central region, and the Atlantic schools, the intercourse

is as easy as between the same district and Trasylyvania University, he asks—‘Who does not know that a voyage by sea, from New Orleans to New York, Philadelphia, or Baltimore, in which the navigation in the autumn and spring is peculiarly difficult as well as hazardous, is much more arduous, expensive and forbidding, than a passage from the same port to Louisville, in a well prepared steam boat? while the descent of the Mississippi, in return, is but an *excursion of pleasure*, the return coastwise from the Atlantic schools being equally arduous with the voyage to them.’ In 1819, a voyage by sea was ‘*much more arduous, expensive and forbidding* than a passage to Louisville ‘*in a well prepared steam boat*: in 1834 a passage to Louisville ‘*in a well prepared steam boat*,’ is much more *tedious*, less ‘*comfortable*’ and more *expensive* than trudging three or four hundred miles on horseback, through mud often knee deep. *Mirabile dictu!* This the candid Professor would persuade students of medicine to believe, ‘*is but an excursion of pleasure.*’ What a prodigal expenditure of money! What a useless waste of time! All those great works of internal improvement already achieved, or now in the progress of rapid accomplishment, designed to increase the facilities of intercourse between the various portions of the Union, will now become useless. A sapient Professor has discovered that to travel on horse-back is speedier, more comfortable and less expensive, than any other mode of conveyance. To what a deal of trouble have the public been put, to by such visionary schemes as the Clintons, the Fultons, and the Rail-Way men!

But ‘the geography and bearings of the States which send medical pupils to the Western schools,’ prove that access to Lexington is easier than to Louisville. What these *newly discovered bearings are*, we shall permit the sagacity of Dr. Caldwell to point out, as we do not wish to deprive him of the glory of their origination. We must remark, however, that from a careful survey of the geography of the Mississippi Valley, as well as of the different facilities employed at present in travelling, that at least one hundred and fifty of the students educated in the West and South, will find access to Louisville

easier, cheaper, and more comfortable, than to Lexington. Nor should it be forgotten that a passage home in the spring is infinitely preferable to a journey by land. Perhaps it is not known to those who have never visited Lexington, that to travel in the spring in Kentucky, and particularly in the neighborhood of the City just mentioned, is almost impracticable. Indeed, during the greater part of that season, horses, like at least four teachers of medicine whom I could mention, enjoy an almost perfect sinecure. So deep and heavy are the roads, that from twenty to twenty-five miles is regarded as a laborious day's journey.

That the '*actual expense*' of a journey by land to Lexington is less than a passage to Louisville in a steam boat from any point on the Mississippi, or its numerous tributaries, no one would assert, whose object is not *ad captandum vulgus*. For less than forty dollars those students who come from the farthest parts of the Mississippi Valley, cannot defray the expenses of a journey by land to Lexington. For a considerably less sum, an individual can procure a passage in a steam boat to Louisville from the most remote point on the Mississippi or any of its navigable tributaries. A passage in a steam boat will prove advantageous to the student in another important particular. Those who come by land must either feed their horses all winter or sell them. The expense of keeping a horse all winter in the vicinity of Lexington, is from twenty-five to thirty dollars. This expense, by going to Louisville, they may avoid. If, however, there are those who would prefer travelling by land, either from taste or convenience, in the vicinity of Louisville their horses can be kept as cheaply as in Lexington, and if they wish to sell them, they will there find a readier and a better market. Facts such as these, will not appear unworthy the serious consideration of those in restricted circumstances.

Viewing the subject a little more in detail than we did on a former occasion, we are still constrained to believe that students of medicine, coming from Virginia, Ohio, Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas Territory, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, and a great portion of Kentucky, will find Louisville much

easier of access than Lexington, and much to their advantage in other respects.

We mentioned in a former publication, that students of medicine could enjoy advantages of Clinical Instruction in Louisville, which in Lexington they could not. On this subject Dr. Caldwell remarks—'In whatever light it may be viewed, hospital practice, held out as a lure to attract a large winter class, is a dishonorable hoax, to gratify the cupidity of those who practice it.' Dishonorable, however, as the course we have pursued may appear in the estimation of Dr. Caldwell, we do not despair of demonstrating from his own lips, that the sentiment just quoted is knavish in the extreme. The tirade of abuse in which he has condescended to indulge against clinical instruction, proceeds, as in fact the whole of his conduct does, from motives that are purely selfish and mercenary. To teach it, the Transylvania Medical Faculty, if they were even qualified, have not at command the slenderest means. Instead, therefore, of endeavoring to remedy the evil, Dr. Caldwell undertakes to prove, that to the student of medicine, clinical instruction is of no importance.

In his recent publication, our author has argued one side of the question; we will now endeavor to show the reader with what success, in his former publications, he has argued the other. He remarks—'A mere medical school, where *only lectures are delivered*, but which is *destitute of certain requisite appendages*, can *scarcely flourish in a high degree*. It resembles too much *a soldier in battle without his equipments*. Of these *appendages*, the most important are *a public hospital*,' &c. He afterwards expresses the confident conviction that our 'enlightened Legislature will liberally appropriate a reasonable portion of the funds of the State' to build a public hospital. As our 'enlightened Legislature,' however, has proved to be less liberal than he expected, he turns on his heel and swears hospital practice is not worth a button.

On another occasion the singularly consistent Dr. Caldwell informs us—'That hospital practice is of great value, as relates to surgery and *morbid anatomy*, (pathological anatomy,) will

not be denied. *Under no other auspices can those two branches be so profitably cultivated.* But, as respects the *practice of medicine*, considerations of much weight *forbid us to make the same concession.* In the preceding quotation we learn that pathological anatomy can be no where learned so well as in a hospital, but that hospital practice is not of such importance in facilitating the attainment of a practical acquaintance with disease. But observe what he says on still another occasion:—*‘Another chapter of great value, is that whose subject is Pathological Anatomy. An intimate acquaintance with the seat, appearance, and nature of the læsions that constitute the immediate cause of disease, IS ESSENTIAL TO HIM WHO ASPIRES TO BE A PHILOSOPHICAL PHYSICIAN, AND A SUCCESSFUL PRACTITIONER. It is that which forms one of the broadest lines of distinction between scientific and empirical medicine.’* Thus we learn that pathological anatomy can no where be cultivated so profitably as in a public hospital; we learn also, that pathological anatomy *‘is essential to him who aspires to be a philosophical physician, and a successful practitioner,’* and yet Dr. Caldwell informs us that *‘considerations of much weight forbid’* him *‘to concede that hospital practice’* is of great value *‘as respects the practice of medicine.’* From the writings of Dr. Caldwell, therefore, we have, as we pledged to do, proved the inestimable value of clinical instruction to the student of medicine.

But let us favor Dr. Caldwell with the opinions of some other distinguished authorities on this subject. It is one of sufficient importance to render a more circumstantial detail of opinions and facts excusable. Dr. GORDON, of the *London Hospital*, a most zealous and talented physician, in an *Introductory Lecture* to his *Course of Clinical Instruction*, after exposing the fatal errors of wild hypothesis, remarks:—*‘Let us now reverse the picture, and if I have spoken with some severity of mere hypothesis, how much more keenly might we depict ‘practice without principles?’—How should we catch the ever varying lineaments of the many headed monster empiricism,’* in all its shades and gradations from the man, not of one idea, but of ONE DRUG, up to the respectable and regular prac-

itioner, who has a particular remedy for each and every disease, without knowing what the disease really is, or in what organ of the body it is seated?—the empirical knowledge preached and acted upon by nurses and *Lady Bountifuls*, and by practitioners who deserve to be ranked with them, confounding in their frightful confidence one disease with another, treating cholera for intercolitis, and rheumatism of the intercostals for pneumonia. The correction of both these errors is the great object of a clinical course, in which the attention of the student is directed to disease as it really exists; and thus supposing him to be, as he really ought, acquainted with the principles of his profession, theory and practice are made mutually to aid and correct each other.' Disagreeable as it is for him to hear honorable mention made of the celebrated Dr. JAMES JOHNSON, and much as we dislike being the cause of pain to any one, we cannot deny ourselves the pleasure of referring Dr. Caldwell to the following quotation:—'*Of the advantages to be derived from good clinical lectures, there never has been, and there never can be, any question; nay, more, wherever and whenever good ones are delivered, there will always be a disposition evinced by the pupils to attend them.*'

Opinion on the subject of clinical instruction, is settled in Europe. The advantages of which it is opulently productive, are no longer questioned. Nearly all the medical schools of continental Europe require of the graduate after obtaining his degree, before he can enter upon the practice of his profession, to pass a considerable time either in an hospital, or with some practical physician. After this period of probation has expired, he again undergoes an examination, as to the progress he has made in practical medicine, before he can be admitted to the *Libra Praxis* of his profession. When we compare this with what obtains in almost every medical school in the United States, we should blush for the profession.

In Edinburgh, and in most of the other British Schools of Medicine, six months attendance on a clinical course is rendered necessary, and the same length of time in any respectable hospital. In the United States a degree is obtained in any

medical school, with the exception of the University of Pennsylvania, without ever having heard a clinical lecture, or without ever having seen the inside of a hospital.

The character of the profession in Europe, has become strikingly practical in its nature. Medical men of the first distinction have become completely disenamoured of wild and visionary hypotheses. By the sound thinker and close reasoner, the hypothetical speculations of Paracelsus, Darwin, Beddoes and Brown, are entirely forgotten. They have been forever buried in oblivion. Universal consent would have consigned the theoretical opinions of Hippocrates and Sydenham, to the same fate, but for the mass of redeeming practical facts, with which they are interwoven. The accurate descriptions of disease left us by Celsus and Aretæus, have been faithfully recollected, while their theories have been forgotten. To the same cause, is Cullen indebted for his present standing with the profession.

In Europe, a taste for facts has superseded the once popular taste for idle and unprofitable speculation. But here its benign influence has still to be felt. The science still groans under the yoke of hypothetical reasoning. What has been the cause of so remarkable, as well as valuable a change in the character of the profession in Europe? The answer is obvious and indisputable. To clinical researches, prosecuted on a large scale in public infirmaries, we, without hesitation, respond. From such resources, have issued all the most popular '*Text Books*' of the age. In public hospitals, Broussais, Andral, Louis and a hundred others, collected the materials, from which were constructed those works that have given them celebrity, and reformed the science. By the labours of such men has the hideous rabble of shallow hypotheses been routed, and the profession based upon a foundation, which enables it to defy all the trickery of the sophist or chicanery of the theorist.

Pathological Anatomy, is the only true and infallible basis of practical medicine. The former, we agree with Dr. Caldwell cannot be studied with so much advantage any where else, as in a public hospital. In such institutions, the students will

have daily opportunities of examining the bodies of those, who die therein. He will learn to detect and distinguish physiological from pathological appearances. Nor will the repeated dissection of human bodies, enable him to do this with any degree of scientific accuracy, unless he has been educated under the quick and sagacious eye of an experienced teacher. To distinguish morbid from healthy parts, can only be done by the physician, who by practice has made himself perfectly familiar with the characteristic properties of each of them. As well might you expect a Hottentot to appreciate the excellencies of a painting, like that of Guido's *Aurora*, Raphael's *Cartoons*, or Rambrandt's *Descent from the Cross*, as to expect a physician unfamiliar with pathological researches to point out what has been the result of disease, what of accident, what the effect of position, what the consequence of dissolution, and what parts still retain their natural appearance. At the former, the Hottentot would gaze with quite as much intelligence, as the physician would at the latter.

By such a physician, would you expect to see disease treated on pathological principles, or by his blind, blundering dissections, would it be rational to expect medical science to be benefited? If you were, you would certainly be disappointed. Nor is it uncommon, for physicians to labour under so material and inexcusable a deficiency. Hundreds annually in the United States, have the honours of the doctorate conferred upon them, who never dissected a human body. This is the reason why, in the estimation of all Europe, we are considered the poorest pathologists in the world. This is what still renders us wild hypothesists, while the medical men in Germany, France and Great Britain are content, cautiously and logically to deduce conclusions from unimpeachable premises.

How is pathological anatomy taught in the Transylvania Medical School? Is it taught there at all? We shall run no risk in answering this in the negative. Who has ever seen a human body opened before the medical class, for pathological purposes? Which of her numerous *alumni* ever made, a pathological dissection under the eyes of one her teachers? Of

that individual we confess, we are just as ignorant as we are of the inhabitants of the moon, or of those of *Georgium Sidus*. Who is not startled at this disclosure, when he hears such language as the following, uttered by Dr. Caldwell. He informs us, that a knowledge of *pathological anatomy* 'is essential to him, who aspires to be a philosophical physican, and a successful practitioner. IT IS THAT WHICH FORMS ONE OF THE BROADEST LINES OF DISTINCTION, BETWEEN SCIENTIFIC AND EMPIRICAL MEDICINE.' What is the usual complimentary cognomen of those who practice empirically? What is the sentence pronounced in the extract just made from Dr. Caldwell, against those to whose diplomas, he willingly places his signature? To Dr. Caldwell, we appeal for a response to these enquiries, or to Dryden if the reader prefers it:

'Th' illit'rate writer, *emp'rick-like*, applies  
 To each disease unsafe, chance remedies;  
 The learn'd in school, when science first began,  
*Studies with care th' anatomy of man.*'

Little as the *alumni* of Transylvania (among whom my name is to be found,) know of real pathology, and vehemently as Dr. Caldwell may rave at hospital practice or clinical instruction, I cannot be persuaded from believing, or frightened from declaring, that it is from such sources alone, that the student of medicine can ever acquire an accurate knowledge of the nature of disease, or learn the proper application of practical principles. In regard to the treatment, the vacant bed will be a telling fact, which the most dull of apprehension cannot misinterpret, while from the post mortem dissection, he will learn the accuracy of the previous diagnosis, as well as the soundness of the pathological principles. Such knowledge from any other source, it will be impossible for him to acquire. Through a whole library he may read, and store his memory with all the researches and investigations that have been prosecuted from the creation of the world to the present moment; he may know Double's voluminous *Symptomatology* by heart; he may sleep with Good's *Study of Medicine* under his head; he may

keep Cooks' *Pathology and Therapeutics*, as his pocket companion, and still he will be a mere book man. Before he can become a skillful practical physician, he must learn at the *bed-side of the patient*, and on the 'dead house' table, how to bring this vast store of knowledge to bear. There he will learn, and no where else, how to apply all his pathological deductions and rules of practice to the ever varying circumstances of particular cases. Hear the emphatical and decided sentiments of the illustrious Tiedemann on this all important subject. He informs us, that the 'most important attribute in the character of a physician, and indeed of every man, who is engaged in the active and practical employment of life, is after the acquisition of sound theoretical knowledge, the power or faculty of distinctly and correctly perceiving the leading phenomena of the case before him, of tracing the relations of causes and their effects, of reasoning upon them, and of applying the deductions to the remedial treatment. There are many physicians, who are excellent theorists, but who never become skillful practitioners; for with all their accumulated information, they know not how to recognize the individualities of a case, nor to reduce the symptoms to any general rule:—*such are all, merely book-men, who have acquired no skill in the sick room.*'

But the authority of Dr. Drake, is adduced against us. Than this, nothing could have been more unfair or uncandid. Dr. Caldwell knows perfectly well, that Dr. Drake has never attempted to depreciate clinical instruction. On the contrary, in a recent work on *Medical Education*, he says:—'The subject of hospital practice, must not be passed over in silence. That it *might be made a source of great improvement to students, no one can deny.*'

The language of the author just quoted, on the occasion referred to by Dr. Caldwell, had allusion exclusively to the extremely embarrassed circumstances, in which he was placed. His words are:—'The wards of the Hospital were too small to admit the entire class, and its Trustees, uneducated and superstitious men, instead of promoting *post mortem* examinations,

sought rather to prevent them.' Since the time to which Dr. Drake adverts the Hospital has been considerably enlarged, and had other useful additions made, and yet in the '*Report of the Committee appointed to visit the Medical College at Cincinnati,*' it is stated that, 'From remarks already made it will be seen, that both from (Hospital) structure and condition, it in no respect, organized or adopted to promote the science of medicine or aid in the objects of usefulness of the Medical College.'

We agree most perfectly with Dr. Caldwell, that clinical medicine, as it is taught in the United States, is more an entire scene of farce, than any thing else. But this need not be so, and he should have had the candour to confess it. This is the more inexcusable in him, as his observation on the subject has not been confined to the United States. He has been in Europe, and there he should have learned better. Had he done this, and had his efforts been directed to the reformation of clinical teaching in the United States, he would have been much more usefully, as well as more profitably employed than in railing against clinical lectures, or than in exciting the ridicule and contempt of society by his preposterous phrenological lucubrations. The hurry, bustle, scuffling and Babel of confused sounds of which he so justly complains, are not absolutely unavoidable, but result obviously from the vicious system of clinical instruction adopted.

To derive such advantage from clinical instruction, as will make the student a practical physician, the system pursued must be entirely changed. Nor is the change alluded to, difficult to accomplish. Such judicious arrangements may be made, as will effectually remedy all the evils complained of, and that too, without much trouble or pecuniary expense. \*

To render clinical instruction as beneficial as possible, the winter session in all schools of medicine, should be six instead of four months. This would enable the student to see a much greater number of patients; he would be much better qualified to appreciate the relative success of the remedial measures adopted by the different clinical teachers; and his opportunities of acquiring a competent knowledge of pathological anat-

omy will be enlarged and rendered ample. To remedy the hurry and bustle, too often witnessed to the disgrace of those who have the management of our infirmaries, instead of a separate and distinct Clinical Professorship, it should be made a part of the duty of every member of a Medical Faculty, to give clinical instruction. The class, however large, might be divided among the different professors, so as to accommodate the number attending each teacher to the capacity of most hospital wards. Every student would in this way be enabled, to hear and see all that he could wish. The plan here suggested, and every one can see that it is perfectly practicable, is not materially unlike the system pursued in many of the medical schools of continental Europe.

To the Medical Clinic of the Parisian School of Medicine, is attached four professors; to the surgical clinic, three professors; while that of *accouchmens* is entrusted to one professor only. It is perfectly easy to perceive that a somewhat similar system could be adopted in the United States, with comparatively little difficulty. When we reflect that proper clinical instruction is amongst the most important items in medical education, inasmuch as upon it in a great measure depends the future success and reputation of the practitioner, it cannot occasion surprise, that something of the kind has not been already done.

There should be not only a plurality of clinical teachers, but but should be men of knowledge and talents, and also patient and enduring. The latter qualities are perhaps, more requisite in a clinical teacher than the former. At every visit he should spend two or three hours, and even longer if necessary. The student must be taught the '*use of his eyes, his ears and his hands.*' The instructor should converse familiarly with his pupils on every interesting case: their attention should be particularly directed to the countenance of the patient the expression and hue of which, are often sufficient to indicate the changes which have taken place since a previous visit: attention should be directed to the tongue, and every student should be made to feel the pulse. Every pupil should be presented

with a stethoscope (but I believe it is an instrument, the use of which is not known to the Transylvania Medical Faculty,) who has not one, and the professor should patiently stand by the bedside while he is listening, giving him directions, in regard to the proper use of it. When the patient has been examined by every student until he is satisfied, the professor should announce to them the nature of the disease under which he labours, and explain the diagnostic evidence upon which he has founded his opinion. He should now prescribe and make known all the elements of his recipe. But this is not all. The anticipated results of the recipe in the aggregate, must not only be clearly developed, but the reason and object of every one of its ingredients must be exhibited. This is the plan upon which clinical instruction is conducted by Dr. Elliotson, of London, and it has been attended with the most satisfactory success. In proof of this, his wards are always crowded by eager and attentive auditors.

Notwithstanding the ease with which a very large class might be accommodated on the plan above suggested, in the wards of most infirmaries, Dr. Caldwell remarks:—‘we are still assured that hospital practice is of great importance to a winter class.’ To this opinion, we unshrinkingly adhere. ‘But, by whom is the assurance given? by physicians of responsibility, who have themselves witnessed it? No, truly; *but by those who are totally ignorant of it*—who, we believe, never visited the wards of a hospital.’ Truly, we never did visit a Lexington Hospital; nor, if such visits were now practicable, would we there find a teacher capable of giving clinical instruction. But this we regret more than do those, whose business it should be to give a satisfactory course of medical instruction. We regret it, because we know from repeated and mortifying experience, the difficulties with which the young physician has to contend, and the perils to which his too confiding patients are often exposed when he is obliged to commence his professional career, altogether ignorant of clinical medicine. Rather than insultingly remind an *alumnus* of the deficiencies of his early professional education, the conscience of Dr. Caldwell should

severely reproach him for having sent him forth into the community a diplomatized physician, without a competent knowledge of his duties.

It was urged by us, that Louisville, on account of being more populous by about ten thousand people than Lexington, was a more eligible site for a medical school. This conclusion, we deduced from the fact, that in the former, anatomical researches could be prosecuted with more success than in the latter. 'This assertion' we are told by Dr. Caldwell, 'is unfounded, and betrays, in those who make it, *an entire ignorance* of the past history, and actual condition of medical schools.' Our ignorance, the reader has doubtless discovered before this, has become a proverb in the mouth of the consistent Dr. Caldwell. By a reference, however, to 'the history, and actual condition of medical schools,' the reader will soon be enabled to determine whether my ignorance, or his duplicity is the more conspicuous and blameable.

Dr. Caldwell adverts, in support of his position to several comparatively small towns, in which medical schools have been more prosperous than in others, that are more populous. In the same page, however, with most inexcusable hardihood, he makes the fatal admission that the 'advantages' which cities offer for the study of anatomy, '*depend chiefly on the liberality of the sentiments and usages that prevail in them.*' ONE GRAND DISCOVERY. Who is so simple as not to know that the ignorant and superstitious will throw every obstacle in the way of the study of anatomy? Who, moreover, is so stupidly credulous, as to believe that liberal sentiments and usages are more prevalent in small towns (and yet his whole argument rests on this idle supposition,) than in large cities. The reverse precisely of his hypothesis universally obtains. Other things therefore, being equal, I still hold it to be a self-evident truth, that a large city is decidedly more favourable to anatomical researches than a small town, and that Louisville consequently presents stronger attractions to students of medicine than Lexington.

We did not assert 'that a large school of medicine can be sustained only in a large city,' but we now affirm, on the au-

thority of unquestionable data, that other things being equal, a large city will prove much more conducive to the prosperity of a medical school, than a small one. It would be preposterous to contend that any medical school can permanently flourish, in which anatomical science is not zealously cultivated. Nor is it possible for this to be done, where the supply of subjects is sparing and insufficient. This must ever be the case in small towns, from the comparative infrequency of deaths, however enlightened may be the view taken by its inhabitants on the subject.

In proof of this, no instance of a medical school flourishing in a high degree in a small town can be designated, unless subjects for dissection were procured from abroad. Indeed, to contend that the subjects used by a medical school located in a small town, are furnished by the town itself, or the country in its immediate vicinity, would be preposterous and absurd. Such, at its very presentation, must it appear to every intelligent and reflecting individual. Without supposing the existence of any illiberal prejudices against the cultivation of anatomy, the practice of using every precaution to prevent exhumation of their deceased friends or relatives, becomes fashionable. This spirit descends to the most obsequious walks of life, thus forcing the teacher of anatomy to resort to some foreign source. When this is the case, is it not evident that those who would in such places prosecute anatomical studies, will have to submit to inconveniences and expend an amount of money scarcely known, and if known, but imperfectly felt, in a large city.

The truth of what we allege is illustrated and enforced by what every winter obtains in Lexington. For the last eight years, but few of the bodies dissected in its amphitheatres have been procured either in the town, or within forty miles of it. They have been brought chiefly from Louisville. The few thus furnished, however, are far from being sufficient to afford such facilities to the study of anatomy as should be at the command of every medical school. In proof of this, but very few of the students have any opportunity to acquire a

knowledge of anatomy, besides what is presented in the public demonstrations. Will this enable any man to become an anatomist? Horner and Pattison would answer, No. Is this the way to make surgeons? Duputren and Cooper would laugh at the suggestion. Nevertheless, hundreds are graduated who never dissected a human body. Of the use of the scalpel they are as ignorant as they are of a Greenlander's harpoon. In their hands the one would be wielded with as much dexterity and judgment as the other. In making these unwelcome disclosures, it is foreign from the author's purpose to reflect upon the distinguished incumbent of the Anatomical and Surgical Chair. They spring from causes over which human wisdom can exert no control.

At one time the Transylvania Medical School stood deeply indebted to Cincinnati. Numerous subjects were furnished by that city for several winters, in succession. This resource, however, has been long since dried up, by those who understand their own interest. Louisville, almost exclusively, furnishes the present meagre supply. Will this continue to be the case? The truthful will answer in the negative. Next winter she will have to furnish her own medical school with subjects. To Transylvania, then, will some *terra incognita* have to give up its dead.

When Louisville refuses her annual supply of subjects, will Dr. Dudley be able, with all his powers of fascination, to sustain the Anatomical and Surgical Chair? Without subjects could *he even* attract crowds of students to Transylvania? But one answer to these questions can be given, and that is a positive negative.

While such circumstances as have been just alluded to, will ever be felt by Transylvania, and will ultimately and not very remotely, (should Centre Medical College get under way,) achieve her destruction, they are such as the students who may resort to Louisville will ever be strangers to. In a city containing a population of but little less than twenty thousand people, and increasing with unprecedented rapidity, they will

always have at hand the amplest means of becoming good practical anatomists and skillful operative surgeons.

But to return to the question under discussion. Public infirmaries abound to a much greater extent in large than in small cities. This being the case, we have the most decided reasons why the former should be preferred to the latter. In hospitals, clinical instruction can be obtained; descriptive, general and pathological anatomy can be studied. In towns like Lexington, where no such establishments are to be found, such information must be either altogether neglected, or very imperfectly furnished.

The standard of professional excellence is generally much higher in a large than in a small town. On this account, the location of a medical school in the former, should be preferred. The higher standard of the profession in large cities arises in part, from the fact, that physicians, ambitious of fame and fortune, as they acquire reputation, leave small towns to congregate in them. In proportion to the magnitude of the city, will be the difficulty in acquiring business. If success, therefore, would be commanded, the physician must be able and accomplished. The contemplation of exalted professional worth cannot fail to exert the most favorable influence on the mind of the student. If he be emulous of fame, he will be more powerfully stimulated to exertion than if he were confined in the sphere of his observation to the herd of physicians to be found in the smaller towns.

In large cities where a number of able physicians are congregated together, many, if not all of them, are private lecturers. This enkindles a spirit of active rivalry in the breasts of all classes of teachers. Each individual struggles manfully for supremacy. The student must be dull and inanimate indeed, if a portion of this spirit is not infused into him. He will thus acquire a habit of study, and imbibe a desire of distinction, which cannot fail to be of the utmost benefit to him in the prosecution of his profession.

Numerous other advantages of a large city as the site of a medical school over those of a small one, might be enumerated.

But space is not allowed us. We must respond to the questions propounded by Dr. Caldwell. We are asked, 'Why have the schools of Leyden, Gottingen and Halle been always larger and more celebrated than those of Vienna, Amsterdam, or Berlin?' With the exception of Amsterdam, we answer they are not. Nor should this city have been mentioned with those above alluded to. Its University, for the last half century, has not been one of those circumstances which have given to it notoriety. It is so perfectly insignificant, that in a very full catalogue of the European Universities I have had an opportunity to consult, it is not to be found. Nor is it mentioned in the article 'Amsterdam,' in the *Encyclopædia Americana*. If the University of Amsterdam ever deserved to rank with the more respectable Universities in Europe, the disastrous history of that city for the last fifty years, furnishes abundant reason why it has not continued to flourish.

The Berlin University, though comparatively very young, having only been founded in the year 1809, is at this time regarded as amongst the foremost in Europe. In 1826, its classes numbered no less than 1640 students. The University of Vienna has long been celebrated for the study of medicine, and although it is yielding the ascendancy to Berlin in consequence of a more scientific spirit existing there than is to be found in Austria, the number of its students is still not much inferior to that of the latter.

Let us now ascertain the actual condition of those schools, which, according to Dr. Caldwell, have always been larger and more celebrated than Berlin and Vienna. Although the University of Leyden is one of the most ancient in Europe, it has at present but 323 students. The University of Halle, in which Meckel, Keil, Wolff, Pfaff, &c. taught, or now teach, never had more than four hundred students until the year 1815, when the University of Wittemberg was united with it, and then even, it never exceeded 1385 students, a number much less than that of either Berlin or Vienna. The University of Gottengen, although it has numbered amongst its professors Haller, Blumenback, Eichhorn, Gauss, &c., and al-

though every native of Brunswick and Nassau must study, for a certain time, at Gottengen, if he wishes any employment in the gift of either government, it had, in the year 1829, but 1264 students. It is, therefore, distinctly ascertained, contrary to the confident assertion of Dr. Caldwell, that the Universities of Berlin and Vienna are larger and in a much more flourishing condition than those of either Leyden, Halle, or Gottengen.

We are asked 'Why, until the present century, have the schools of Montpellier and Edinburgh been larger than those of Paris and London?' If he is acquainted with the causes why they are now smaller, he cannot be ignorant of the reasons which formerly rendered them larger. During the two periods to which Dr. Caldwell alludes, the relative population of those cities has not materially changed.

Why 'is the school of Boston sometimes inferior in numbers to that of New Haven, and those of other small New England towns?' It is not true, that the Boston school is inferior to that of New Haven. While the former has commonly about eighty, the latter rarely has more than seventy pupils. Nor is the Boston school inferior to all the others of New England. But three of them surpass it in the number of their pupils, while all the rest are considerably inferior to it. For the superiority of those three, there is an obvious reason. Between the competition with which Boston has to contend, and that of those which have larger classes, there is no comparison. Within a short distance of Boston, there are no less than three medical schools; one within thirty, a second within one hundred, and a third within one hundred and twenty miles, while one of those by which it has been surpassed in the number of its pupils, has but one rival within one hundred miles; the second, but one within one hundred and thirty miles, and the third has not a rival within much less than three hundred miles.

But we are again asked 'Why has the school of Transylvania been the *second* in size, in the United States?' For two obvious reasons. It has been sustained by a population of five mil-

lions of people, and until the year 1826, competition could not be said fairly to have existed.

We have now, in a much more detailed and circumstantial manner than they actually deserved, responded to the questions which were propounded to us by Dr. Caldwell; in like manner his gratuitous statements have been passed through the ordeal of a rigid investigation. While we flatter ourselves that our answers to the former will be considered conclusive and satisfactory, the nature of the latter will be regarded in the light of false and untenable assumptions. After this labored and not altogether unperplexed discussion, we venture the belief that every reader will perfectly unite with us in opinion, other things being equal, that large cities or towns will always prove more conducive to the interests and celebrity of a school of medicine, than those that are smaller and comparatively insignificant. The questions which have been asked by Dr. Caldwell, betray so much duplicity, and the statements he has made, discover so great a contempt for truth or so much ignorance, that we venture to recommend to his most deliberate consideration, the very same advice which he so unceremoniously gave to us. If, therefore, he cannot maintain the stand he has taken, *we advise him, in credit to himself, to abandon his ground, by an acknowledgment of his duplicity, his ignorance and his inexcusable contempt of truth—or, at least hermetically, to seal his lips, and expose himself no further, by writing or talking on matters of which he is uninformed, or in regard to which his want of ingenuousness will not permit him to speak with candor.*

In furtherance of the disreputable purpose which he has avowed it his object to accomplish, Dr. Caldwell informs us that 'pupils can live in Lexington at half the cost of similar fare and accommodations' in Louisville. This assertion is in perfect keeping with the numerous other false statements with which his publication abounds. We admit that in the public houses of Louisville, boarding is a trifle higher than in similar houses in Lexington. Not so, however, with the private boarding establishments. We assert, upon authority, the truth of

which we are not at liberty to doubt, that they furnish boarding on terms quite as moderate as similar houses do in Lexington.

The reason of this is manifest. The price of fuel in Lexington in the winter, is always very high. When the roads become bad, and this very frequently happens, it cannot be procured but at prices the most exorbitant and oppressive. Nor is this all. The supply is far from being abundant, particularly at those periods of intense cold, when it is most needed. To the student of medicine this must prove peculiarly unpleasant; to those, especially, who come from more southern latitudes, and whose constitutions are illy qualified to stand the rigor of our climate. Comfortable and hot fires are, to such individuals, indispensable, although in Lexington they are known to be characteristically scanty. Often have I seen *Southerners* muffled up, as if equipped for a Russian campaign, shivering over a few smouldering embers. The reverse of this unembellished statement universally obtains in Louisville. Situated on the Ohio, that river furnishes it with fuel in the greatest abundance, and on at least thirty *per centum* more moderate terms than it can be procured for in Lexington. Nor does the price fluctuate as it does in this city, the supply being steady and uniform.

In regard to the quality of the boarding to which Dr. Caldwell has made allusion between Louisville and Lexington, there can be no comparison instituted. The market of the former, on the score of abundance, variety, and the excellence of the articles, is not equalled in the Western country: nor is it believed that it is surpassed by any other in the United States, if we except that of Philadelphia. To those who have visited her private boarding establishments, it is needless to say that the abundance, variety and delicacy of their tables, prove that they are not insensible to, or ignorant of their advantages. X

But it matters not how cheaply a student may be accommodated with boarding of the first quality in Louisville, it will never do to send him there, as his character will be exposed to

the greatest risk of moral deterioration. Nothing could be more imprudent. No judicious parent would think of risking his son, of from twenty to twenty-five years of age, on the *pave* of that corrupt commercial thorough-fare, without a guardian to protect him. The dangers to which he would be exposed, are incalculable. Peradventure he might be allured to his ruin by some warbling syren, or transformed into a hog by some enchanting Circe,—or, what is far more likely, he might be McADAMIZED while crossing some public street in his way from one lecture-room to another.

To speak seriously on this subject, we cannot but express surprise that Dr. Caldwell should argue the superior moral purity of Lexington over that of Louisville, when a recent event of a character so discouraging is fresh in the recollection. Nor will Transylvania fail to feel the evil consequences of it. Already has public attention been awakened, and already has public disapprobation been indignantly manifested. *Already is Tennessee aroused.* This assertion I do not make upon the authority of my own surmises, but from information communicated to the author by a pious and highly respectable preacher of the Gospel, who has just returned from a tour through that State. The determination of FATHERS AND MOTHERS is decided and universal, not to send their sons in future to Transylvania. Nor is this determination unwise, or its declaration precipitate.

In every city of sufficient magnitude to authorize the establishment of a medical school in it, there never will be wanting the amplest means of gratifying the vicious and rebellious inclinations of the idle and the dissolute. The haunts of wickedness will be found to flourish in all their plenitude in every city in the United States, of the size even of Lexington. It is not necessary to visit a large city, to see such places of utter and irreclaimable abomination thronged by the votaries of every vice and the perpetrators of every crime.

In large cities there is exerted, I am persuaded a restraining influence, especially over the medical student, which is not found to exist to the same extent in those that are comparative-

ly small. I allude to the literary and scientific spirit, as well as the zealous competition to be found in the former, but rarely to be met with in the latter. He will there be called to witness an indomitable ardour, in the cultivation of medical science, and the unprescient results of zealous rivalry, to which he would have been forever a perfect stranger in most cities of the size of Lexington. This will inspire him with thoughts of future greatness, and of extensive usefulness in his profession, which he never would have conceived in the narrow, dull and monotonous circle of professional indifference, too characteristic of small cities and towns. He will thus have infused into him an ardent or of study, and a zealous desire to acquire reputation in his profession. He will not be satisfied to measure his attainments with that 'fat stupidity and gross ignorance,' with which too many are but too familiar during the years of early pupilage. When once he is brought under the influence here alluded to, his moral character will be protected from the seductive blandishments of temptation, or the specious allurements of vice by an impenetrable ægis. It will weaken his sensual, while it will strengthen his intellectual character.

But the demoralizing tendency of Louisville, is not the only serious charge preferred against it by Dr. Caldwell. In that unfortunate city it has been discovered that it is '*impossible to be a student.*' PRODIGIOUS! what wonder the *discoverer* did not like the philosopher of Syracuse in his transport, run start-naked through the streets of Louisville. The authority of Dr. Caldwell, could not have given a more substantial or acceptable explanation of his ignorance. However ingenious this may have been in the former, we cannot with all our knowledge of the extreme credulity of the latter, but express the utmost astonishment that he should have been imposed on by such arrant flummery.

We speak advisedly and from personal observation, when we maintain that a habit of study is more easily acquired and persevered in, in large cities and towns, than in those that are small. So true is, this that to study a profession in a village with ar-

dour or success is almost impossible. The scenes daily witnessed in the office of a village Lawyer or village Physician, are conclusive proof of this. There you will see one heterogenous and villainous compound of pettifoggers, physicians, merchants, clerks, store and shop-boys, and mechanics discoursing, no doubt, like Milton's Angels on high doctrinal points. Village scandal is not more common or proverbial than village lounging. Nor is the one more disgraceful and deleterious than the other.

It cannot, moreover, be denied that almost every physician who has distinguished himself, and been regarded as an honour and ornament to his profession has received his medical education in a large city. Nor is it the less true, that those physicians whom I have observed to be the most indefatigable students have been educated in such places. There they imbibed a spirit during their medical pupilage, which seemed to exert over them its benign influence throughout the whole of after life.

Commercial communities, we are informed, are unpropitious to literary and scientific pursuits. This opinion is not less false than it is popular, and this I imagine is a principal reason why it enjoys the benefit of Dr. Caldwell's support. It has obtained vogue, I presume, either from a too superficial view of the subject, or what is still more probable, from having been deduced from a few insulated and in reality anomalous facts. A wider and more comprehensive view of the subject would, I am persuaded, have led to a different conclusion.

Thus, Glasgow in Scotland, which has been long distinguished for its extensive commerce and manufactures, has a University containing no less than 1400 students. In a literary and commercial connexion there is not in Europe, of its size or population, a city so important as Leipsic. It is the centre of European trade with the interior of Germany, and the place of deposit for Foreign and Saxon goods, it has three fairs to which merchants resort from all parts of Europe, and from Asia, and its commerce, though not now so great as formerly, still employs, directly or indirectly, the majority of the inhab-

itants. In such a place Dr. Caldwell would suppose, that for science and literature to flourish, would be impossible. In its University, however, some of the most famous scholars of Germany have taught, and it now numbers 1300 students and 70 professors. Breslau the capital of Silesia, carries on a very extensive commerce, and has a University which contains more than 850 students. Prague, the centre of Bohemian commerce, and of a considerable transit trade has a University containing 1500 students and 44 professors. Pesh is the most populous and commercial town in Hungary, and has a University containing 1000 students and 43 professors. Louvain was formerly a place of great commercial and manufacturing importance, and its University in the sixteenth century contained 6000 students. Vienna, the store-house of the inland trade of all Austria, has quite an extensive commerce with England, the Netherlands, and France, and important dealings with Italy, Hungary, Poland and Turkey, and contains one of the most celebrated Universities in Europe. In Switzerland four of her five principal commercial cities, contain four of her most famed Universities. Boston and Philadelphia are cities, in which prevail a very high literary and scientific spirit, and yet few cities in the United States, are to a greater extent involved in commerce. Numerous other illustrations might be adduced to prove, that commerce and science may flourish together. Indeed were space allowed me, it would not be difficult to demonstrate that they might be made to exert a mutually beneficial influence. On the present occasion, however, we must rest satisfied with having proved that there is nothing in a commercial city, hostile to the best interests of science. Louisville need not therefore, be under any apprehension that her commercial character will constitute a *re mora* to the rapid advancement of her medical school.

Dr. Caldwell closes his singular pamphlet, with a most pathetic appeal 'to the grateful and high-minded sons of Transylvania, who are scattered throughout the Mississippi valley to make common cause with their ALMA MATER. Enlightened as they are, they have not now to learn, that whatever injures

the standing of the *mother*, falls like a blight on that of her children.' In other words:—'Gentlemen the *old Hulk is sinking*, but for heavens sake do not desert her; stick to her like true-hearts for your lives depend on it: because, if she goes down you must go with her. Though I plead earnestly, if you refuse, you will do it at your peril: for recollect 'that the *fault-finders are usually among the least intellectual and respectable members of the School. If they murmur or condemn, on account of not receiving knowledge, the defect is in themselves—their want of capacity or want of industry, or both.* Thus, Gentlemen, you hear your doom! Tremble before it, as did Belteshazzar, when he saw his fate written on the wall! Dare to refuse the 'collar' or to become the indentured slaves of Transylvania, and you are immediately pronounced to be ragamuffins and fools.'

We must now close our intercourse with Dr. Caldwell, and may it be forever. But before we part, an humble individual, 'still in the crudeness of early manhood,' would speak a word in the private ear of one, whose locks have been bleached by the frosts of nearly *seventy* revolving winters. Were you to write with the elegance of a Plato, the majesty of a Virgil, and the profundity of an Aristotle, unless you discover more candour and consistency in the opinions you express and publish, than are observable in your last publication, all your just claims to consideration and respect, will be utterly forgotten in the derision, hatred and scorn, which all mankind must feel for your mercenary and time-saving duplicity.

#### CITIZENS OF LOUISVILLE,

You now see the vantage ground, on which you are placed. Your city is the one destined by the everlasting decrees of nature, and the cumulative energies of art to be the seat of the GREAT SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, *of the valley of the Mississippi.* This assertion is not made rashly or precipitately. We have examined the subject deliberately, impartially and thoroughly. We have looked at it in every light in which it could be exhibited. Our judgment has not been warped by partiality, biassed by personal rancour, or unduly influenced by ambitious motives. We therefore maintain,

that in the whole wide compass of the beautiful and truly magnificent region of country embraced in what is denominated the valley of the Mississippi, is there to be found a single spot so eligible for the site of a School of Medicine as the city of Louisville. In most other places, success, if obtained at all, must be forced, and then it is feeble and fluctuating; but in Louisville a Medical School founded on a proper basis, and governed by proper principles, would spontaneously bound forward in the rapid and vigorous career of extensive usefulness, unsullied honour and fairly won fame.

The developements made, and the details in which we have freely indulged in the preceding pages, conclusively illustrate the object we have in view. A School of Medicine of inferior cast,—in which inferior men are to teach, or in which inferior instruction is to be given, is not contemplated. Merely to be a professor in a medical school, regardless of its character, of the merits of his associates, or of the motives by which they are inspired, has never yet created in the author a single emotion of pride, or enkindled in his breast a single ambitious desire. Though abused and villified, as I have been; my feelings assailed with the most vindictive and unprincipled violence, and my conduct ascribed to motives the most humiliating and disreputable, I am, not capable, humble as I am and few as are my just pretensions, of aspiring to a distinction so unenviable. But to be a professor in a school of medicine, whose career is onward; whose destiny is bright and refulgent with glory; whose teachers are able, and who struggle with unflinching zeal for fame and its honours, would be a distinction, which, I confess, would create in any bosom unaffected delight, and for the attainment of which, ambition would kindle into a vivid flame all its hallowed fire, and reanimate to inconceivable exertion every undying energy. Nothing less than this is the object of the present enterprise, and nothing less is capable of imparting to our efforts energy, zeal, and indomitable resolution.

But do you inquire how an undertaking of such magnitude and unspeakable importance is to be accomplished? The means

to be used are of easy conception, but they are of such a character that to command success, they must be wielded by an arm strung with nerves of adamant. The first important step is the organization of a suitable Medical Faculty: a Faculty not in name only, but in reality '*rich in their possession of the proper kind of knowledge, and happy in their mode of imparting it, both orally and in writing.*' To think of a Faculty of any other kind, would be supremely ridiculous and manifestly absurd. To those who would give it a moments serious consideration, it would prove certainly suicidal in its tendency. Defeat and discomfiture, mortification and insult, would be their infallible reward. Nor if retreat were desirable, or could it be made practicable, would it be glorious and triumphant, like that of Xenophon. Into the opprobrious haunts of obscurity, would they be pursued by public obliquy, and into their hearts would be poured the concentrated bitterness of hatred, indignation and scorn.

Can a Medical Faculty of the kind, to which allusion has been made, be organized in Louisville? To the uninformed, or to those who have not particularly directed their attention to the subject, this question would prove embarrassing. To those, however, who have made it a theme of study and reflection, and to whom it has been one of deep and engrossing interest, but one answer can present itself. We respond therefore, that it is practicable. Let Louisville command and there are those who will see her mandates obeyed. But her will must be expressed in tones clear and distinct, as well as in language emphatical and loud. Disunion must not distract her councils. Discord is death. This the enemies of Louisville know: nor will they hesitate to use any means however, base and detestable that may be calculated to enkindle the sparks of disaffection into a fierce and consuming flame. This is not the random ebullition of a heated or excited imagination. Both experience and observation prove it to be true. The vulgar and vituperative abuse, with which the public prints teem, prove it; the slanderous manevolence of active and collared partisans, prove it; the assault of a reckless, mercenary and infuriated pamphleteer, prove it, and it is proved by the vin-

dictive rage of those, whose ignorance and unfounded pretensions, we have dared to expose.

It is useless to remark that no allusion is here made to the friends of the Louisville Institute. Towards those individuals, we have had reason to experience no other feelings than those of perfect friendship. We regret, however, that strenuous efforts have recently been made in its behalf. This we lament more on account of the embarrassment, which may be caused to Centre Medical College, than because we deprecate its success. Those who would ascribe to me any such sentiments, would do me great injustice. If the cause of medical science is to be subserved, and those objects of proud and comprehensive ambition, which should stimulate Louisville to exertion, are to be attained by it, then would we be among the foremost to rejoice at its success. While we speak only such sentiments, as are deeply and sincerely felt, permit us to remark, that according to the opinion entertained by us on the subject, we do not regard the course of policy which has been adopted, the best calculated to secure the attainment of those ends.

To guarantee success, the Medical Faculty must not only be the ablest that can be procured, but its members must be selected from the most conspicuous points of the Mississippi Valley. This consideration is scarcely inferior in importance to any other. It is one that will directly contribute to the accomplishment of the end in view. A reference to the Centre Medical College Faculty, will show that this was a leading argument with the *Board of Trustees* in its organization. To have acted otherwise, would have been injudicious and impolitic. Notwithstanding the deservedly high professional standing of the physicians of Louisville, to have selected their first Medical Faculty from among them, would have been unwise in the extreme. Nor would it have been much less indiscreet, to have distributed the Professorships amongst the most conspicuous physicians in the State of Kentucky. Either plan would make the school local in its nature; local in its reputation, and consequently local, and comparatively insignificant in its results.

The certain defeat of such an enterprise, would tread closely on the heels of its conception.

If the motives which have actuated, and the course which has been pursued by the Board of Trustees of Centre College, are calmly weighed and impartially sifted, the citizens of Louisville cannot but see that with their co-operation, success is firmly and infallibly guaranteed. As we would not, however, have you to embark in an enterprise visionary or unprofitable, and as we have given some of the reasons which induce us to entertain the most substantial hopes of success, let us inquire what are the reasons which should persuade you to pledge your co-operation?

The first conspicuous advantage which Louisville would derive from a Medical School, flourishing within its borders, would consist in an increased elevation of the professional standard amongst its physicians. Though at this time, as respectable and intelligent as the physicians of any other community in the valley of the Mississippi, under the arousing and reinvigorating influence of a prosperous School of Medicine, they would become more so. This will arise from the awakening and quickening of their dormant, and hitherto insufficiently employed powers. The cause of this, would consist in the rivalry, which always spring up between the Professors and the physicians: and it may be honourable, zealous and productive of the best results. If the former are as they should be, able, industrious and liberal, these traits of character would be surely propagated among the physicians. They are not less contagious than the itch or small-pox. Rather than be surpassed by the official lecturers, the private teachers as well as the mere practitioner of medicine, would be stimulated to the most powerful and profitable intellectual exertion.

That such will be the influence exerted by a respectable Medical School, we are authorized to assert, from what has resulted from such institutions in other considerable cities. We restrict this assertion to cities considerable in point of size. In those that are small and inconsiderable, a medical school has rarely the effect to raise the standard of the profession.

The professors have it too much in their power to put down exertion by intolerance and persecution. By oppression and illiberality they paralyze industry, extinguish zeal, and by every base and contemptible means, they endeavor to exterminate ambition. This is incontestably proved by the notorious facts that in small towns the practitioners of medicine complain much more loudly and bitterly against the professors than they do in those that are larger.

The qualifications of the practising physicians of a town never can be a matter of indifference to its citizens. If they are of a high order, they will receive the benefit, and if the reverse, their lives will be exposed to the greater danger. In proof of the advantages derivable to the physicians of a city, from the existence of a medical school in it, we appeal to Edinburgh and Glasgow, in Scotland; London, in England; Dublin, in Ireland; Paris and Montpellier, in France; Leyden, in the Netherlands; Vienna, in Austria; Berlin, in Prussia, and Philadelphia, New York and Baltimore, in the United States. In no other cities in the countries just mentioned, is the profession on a footing so respectable; nor do the practising physicians of other places prosecute the study of medicine with the same ardor or success.

The location of a medical school in Louisville will impart to it a literary and scientific character, in a high degree elegant and refined. Wherever a medical school has flourished, if the professors of it have been actuated by high-minded and honorable motives, this has been the uniform result. Of the truth of this assertion, the most abundant proof might be adduced. With but two rather striking illustrations, however, shall we trouble the reader. In the beautiful city of Berlin an University was founded in the year 1809. Though previously a rather rude and uncultivated people, by means of its University and other literary institutions, a scientific spirit was enkindled, and they now rank with the most scientific, elegant and refined people in Europe. The comparatively small town of New Haven has, on account of its numerous literary institutions, acquired a standing for science and other elegant ac-

accomplishments, so high and distinguished, as to have excited the envy and jealousy of much larger and more populous cities.

The honor and glory of having among them the great Medical School of the Mississippi Valley, should flatter the pride of and arouse to exertion the citizens of Louisville. Nor will such honor and glory prove unprofitable. Independently of those who will resort to her literary institutions for instruction, crowds of strangers of a different class, and actuated by different motives, will be attracted to it. The society of such persons will powerfully tend to soften, refine and establish the intercourse of social life, while it will serve to deepen and widen the stream of pecuniary profit, which will be made to flow through every channel of the community.

To *boarding-houses*, the benefits of a medical school would be incalculable. The individuals by whom such establishments are kept, are usually in indigent circumstances, and who resort to it as the only means of procuring a comfortable subsistence. Many of whom are poor widows, and other respectable people, whom misfortune has reduced to poverty, and who deserve and should receive in the most substantial form, the sympathy and support of the public. To distribute among such persons every winter from 150 to 200 students, and a much less though still highly respectable number every summer, would lay them under obligations of gratitude so deep and abiding, as not easily to be forgotten. Therefore, to oppose or to give but a feeble and inefficient support to the establishment of a medical school in Louisville, is not only to deny yourselves the pleasure of conferring favors, but to withhold from your indigent and dependent fellow-citizens the means of living comfortably. That such cold and unsympathising feelings will be betrayed in your conduct, my knowledge of your character forbids me from believing.

To the Printer and vender of books of all kinds, but especially of medical books, the enterprise in which we are engaged, should be peculiarly attractive. In Lexington, the

Book-Stores do not derive much benefit from the medical school. The reason of this is obvious. Its inland situation precludes the student from the purchase of books. To have them carried to their respective houses, they know to be impossible. This is a circumstance which they deeply lament, for it often obliges them to commence the practice of medicine without even the ordinary *Text Books*. Nor is this inconvenience always temporary in its nature. Many of them live in places so remote from direct intercourse with the commercial world, that to accumulate even a moderate sized library after they leave the University, is almost quite as impossible. In Louisville, this inconvenience they will not have to regret. The Mississippi river and its navigable tributaries, either flows directly by the doors or within a few miles of the residence of a large majority of those who attend medical lectures in the Valley of the Mississippi. This being the case, it is perfectly evident that the largest library may be transported to their respective homes with no risk, and almost with as little expense. With less than one hundred dollars worth of medical books, it is impossible for the young physician to commence practice, either with satisfaction to himself, or his patients. Suppose the medical class assembled in Louisville to be from 150 to 200 students, and in a few years this will certainly be the case, one hundred of them will immediately become practitioners. Thus, it is not rash to conclude that, in the course of a very few years, at least ten thousand dollars worth of medical books would be sold in Louisville every spring.

Nor will the pecuniary advantages of a medical school to the Book-merchant be greater than those to the Druggist. With less than one hundred dollars the physician cannot furnish himself with medicines, surgical instruments, and shop furniture. Thus, into the hands of the druggist, would necessarily fall the sum of ten thousand dollars. Nor would this be all. The physician just commencing business, would not only become in all probability a permanent customer himself, but through him a correspondence might be established with his preceptor and other professional friends. To estimate the ad-

wantages which might thus be made to accrue to the Druggist, would be almost impossible.

The merchant and mechanic will find it to their interest to encourage and foster the enterprise. Of the truth of this, he will be convinced, when he reflects upon the number, variety and quality of the articles which must be purchased by from 150 to 200 young men. Think also of the number of mechanics through whose hands they must pass, before they can be used. The merchant, the hat-manufacturer, the boot and shoe-maker, the tailor, the tanner, and in fact a large majority of those engaged in the mechanical arts, are deeply interested. Nor should they fail to reflect on the numerous connexions which would thus be formed with the merchants in the West and South. The pecuniary advantages thus presented, are of such a character and must prove of such magnitude, as to admit of no specific calculation.

But let us make a calculation of what would be the actual expenditures of 150 students of medicine, during a winter residence in Louisville. The student would be very economical if it should cost him less than \$400. Boarding, clothing, tuition, books, medicines, surgical instruments and shop-furniture could not fall short of the sum here supposed. In Louisville, therefore, would be expended the sum of \$60,000. Nor is this all. The estimate above made only includes what may be regarded as indispensable. We know that the dispensable expenses of students amount to a very considerable sum.

But the pecuniary advantages which would be conferred upon Louisville by a medical school, would not be limited to the winter season. Place the public infirmaries upon a proper footing; let such measures be adopted as are calculated to make them yield all the benefits of which they can be rendered capable, and crowds of medical students will be seen in Louisville during the whole summer.

Can it be possible that you are insensible to advantages of such magnitude? Are you willing with cold and imperturbable indifference, to see them ministering to the wealth and respectability of a neighboring city which cannot present to

students of medicine attractions half so powerful as those of Louisville? Will you be alarmed by idle fears; depressed by unreasonable forebodings; driven from the accomplishment of a noble and glorious object by the insinuations of pretended friends, or the denunciations of open and avowed enemies? No; I cannot and will not believe it. The thought shall not be cherished or fostered for a moment. Those of you who are friendly to the interests of Louisville, and would promote the cause of medical science, will know well how to interpret the motives of those who, by assuming airs of priggish importance, would produce disaffection; or, by encouraging rival interests, would occasion discord; or, by the croakings of interested and designing schemers, would overshadow the enterprise with the dark and heavy clouds of apathy and indifference.

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#### NOTE.

The *Exhortatory Address* of Dr. CALDWELL, alluded to at page 10, was not made then, but a few hours before on the same day; as we have since understood.

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#### ERRATA.

Page 6, bottom line, for retort, read *resort*.

“ 24, 9th line from top, for friend, read *fiend*.

“ 41, 6th “ “ “ for dexus, read *plexus*.

“ 55, 10th “ “ “ for insistibly, read *irresistibly*.

“ 67, 6th “ “ bottom, for Mercurialili, read *Mercuriali*.

“ 70, 9th “ “ “ for hypotheses, read *hypothesis*.

“ 90, 12th “ “ “ for but, read *they*.

“ 19, 14th “ “ top, for conduced, read *conducted*.

“ 101, 12th “ “ “ for or, read *love*.

“ 103, 7th “ “ bottom, for re mora, read *remora*.



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