QUOTATIONS

THE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT AND THE UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR

In Professor A. Lawrence Lowell's first formal address as president-elect of Harvard University, printed in the *Harvard Bulletin*, he says:

It is commonly thought that President Eliot has ruled Harvard and the faculty with a heavy hand. It is not so. When I went to Cambridge one of my colleagues said to me: "If you fail to give satisfaction you will go; but so long as you give satisfaction you may teach as you please." That has been President Eliot's method of treating his subordinates, the members of the faculty.

Is it to be understood that as president of Harvard University Mr. Lowell proposes to retain his subordinates only so long as they give him satisfaction?

The president of another great university has recently expressed his opinion of the relation between the university president and the university professor. In his recently printed lectures before the University of Copenhagen, President Butler, of Columbia University, writes:

Almost without exception the men who to-day occupy the most conspicuous positions in the United States have worked their way up, by their own ability, from very humble beginnings. The heads of the great universities were every one of them not long ago humble and poorly compensated teachers.—An 'Umble Professor in *The Nation*.

MAMMALS IN THE CONGRESS

Mr. Macon—"Another question. I notice that it is proposed to preserve mammals. What kind of mammals are there up there? I notice here some mammals that you want to preserve there. What are mammals, and of what use will they be to the government?"

Mr. Gronna—"So far as I know, there are no mammals on the islands. The species of birds we have, I have mentioned. We have also the white pelican——"

Mr. Macon—"Are these mammal birds?"

Mr. Gronna—"We have on those particular islands birds that are found nowhere else in the United States, I will say to the gentleman from Arkansas. We have the white-winged scoter, that is not found anywhere else in the interior of this country."

Mr. Macon—"But I want to know about the mammals."

Mr. Gronna—"I am not discussing or referring to mammals."

Mr. Macon—"But I want to know about them."

Mr. Gronna—"I am talking about birds."

Mr. Macon—"I have understood they are something like rats, gophers, or something of that kind."

Mr. Humphreys—"Or 'possum."

Mr. Macon—"Oh, no——"

Mr. Gronna—"I will say in reply to the gentleman from Arkansas that if there are any mammals there of any value we will be very much pleased to preserve them."

Mr. Macon—"But what are they good for?"

Mr. Gronna—"I say we have none that I know of."

Mr. Macon—"What are they good for, or what would they be good for if they were there?"

Mr. Gronna—"I will say to the gentleman from Arkansas that my reply to the gentleman was this, that if there are any mammals of any value we would desire to preserve them."

Mr. Macon—"I am trying to get at what they are good for, but it seems that the gentleman can not inform me."

SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

Pulmonary Tuberculosis and Its Complications. By Sherman G. Bonney, M.D., Professor of Medicine, Denver and Gross College of Medicine, Denver. 8vo, pp. 778, with 189 original illustrations, including 20 in colors and 60 X-ray photographs. Philadelphia and London, W. B. Saunders Company. 1908. Cloth, $7 net; half morocco, $8.50 net.

Dr. Bonney has given us a most valuable book, and one replete with interest. It embodies "largely the results of personal experience." Dr. Bonney has for many years enjoyed a large practise, and has had unusual opportunities for clinical study, which have

been put to good use. His observations and conclusions have therefore great value.

While the book is, as he says, designed for the general practitioner, one of the best written and strongest portions is Part VI., section I., in which he deals with Prophylaxis. Under this general head we find discussed Notification and Registration, Education for the Consumptive and the Public, the giving of Material Aid, and Administrative Control. These chapters are well adapted for general reading, and we wish that the educated public, and especially those charged with the making and administration of our laws, could be forced to study them. A single quotation only can be given:

> Society, which sometimes encompasses the regular and legitimate practitioner of medicine with embarrassing restrictions, yet permits the unsuspecting invalid to become the non-defensive prey of ignorant and unscrupulous charlatans. While many forms of quackery have been overlooked, and the advertisement and sale of patent medicines containing alcohol and various narcotics have been permitted, the state, by virtue of its failure to enact repressive legislation or to enforce existing laws, has become indirectly responsible for the lack of public health.

At present interest is again turned to the relation between bovine and human tuberculosis. Dr. Bonney's conclusions are in the main sound and practical. While admitting the danger to man from cattle, he says: . . . "among individuals a greater virulence attaches to the bacillus of human origin than to the bovine." This statement is incorrect. If it means that the consumptive man is the chief source of danger to man, we will agree with it, but no one has ever shown that the human bacillus is more virulent for man than the bovine germ, and there is good reason to believe that the contrary is true.

The discussion of staining is meager, and no mention is made of the non-acid-fast forms of the tubercle bacillus, a most important matter pointed out by E. Klebs, Much, Michaelides, Herman and others. What he says against waiting to make a diagnosis until tubercle bacilli are found in the sputum is eminently sound. Much valuable time is lost, and many lives sacrificed by this wide-spread, but most pernicious, practise.

The methods given for isolation of cultures are incorrect.

The sections of the book which will probably most interest the practitioner are those on diagnosis, symptomatology, complications and treatment. These occupy the major portion of the book, and are illustrated by many excellent and well-chosen cuts.

The classification of cases is not in accordance with the modern trend, and no mention is made of the classification advised by the National Association.

The subject-matter in these sections is very full and contains a vast amount of practical knowledge.

Sixty X-ray photographs are given, most of them excellent. Dr. Bonney properly regards the X-ray as a valuable aid to diagnosis. He considers the "legitimate scope of the subcutaneous tuberculin test to be extremely limited," though he says it is "not only harmless, but has a high diagnostic value" when intelligently employed. While recognizing the care necessary in the use of tuberculin, we believe its use should be extended, and in view of what he says, it is illogical to limit its use as he does.

Dr. Bonney is an advocate of the most pronounced type of the climatic treatment of tuberculosis. For him the ideal climate is found in Colorado, especially in Denver and Colorado Springs. Even in those features which apparently detract from the perfect ensemble, he finds "concealed" desirable features. It would be hard to imagine a more marked contrast than his description of Colorado and the Adirondacks. The latter he says have a comparatively small number of sunny days, moderate humidity, and an abundance of clouds, fog, snow and rain, yet admits that they have a "well-deserved reputation as a place of sojourn for pulmonary invalids." From his description certainly no more unsuitable climate could be found, yet we know that the results obtained there are among the best in any part of the world.

His reiterated advice concerning "regard for infinite detail" in the treatment of tuber-

culosis is to be most highly commended, and we suspect that much of the good he attributes to climatic influences is due to this minute personal attention, which is the keynote of successful treatment in any climate. It would be fairer, and the arguments have more weight, if Dr. Bonney proved by statistical comparison the marked advantages of Colorado over what he considers less favorable regions.

In the treatment of hemorrhage on page 717, Dr. Bonney wisely, we think, advises against the use of all drugs calculated to reduce the volume of blood in the lungs, as worthless and harmful. On page 722, however, he speaks highly of placing ligatures around the extremities, which act by reducing the volume of blood, though the pathologic changes which prevent the contraction of the vessels at the site of bleeding must act with equal force in both cases.

The chapter on Theories of Immunity is the weakest part of the book, and should be omitted in the future, or re-written. The text is far from clear, and many inaccurate expressions are used, such as "toxic infection," "receptor cells," "protective poisons," "bacilli emulsion," etc. If his description of an antitoxin means anything it is that antitoxins consist of an excess of haptophores!

In describing Wright's technique we are told that the film is so spread as to insure even distribution of the cells. This is exactly what we try to avoid, Wright having devised a special method of spreading with the end of a slide for the purpose of pressing the leucocytes to the edges and end of the smear, to facilitate counting.

The *italic* is overworked throughout the book.

The names of Lassar, Delépine, Vallée, Gabbett, Descos and Larrier are misspelled.

It is more easy to pick flaws than to construct a book, but in a work of such general excellence, it is particularly disappointing to find such defects as have been pointed out.

The printing is good, and the illustrations throughout are first class, from the technical, as well as the educational standpoint.

In spite of the defects, and though we may not agree with Dr. Bonney in some of his views, we consider the book a valuable addition to our knowledge of the terrible disease of which he treats. Not only the general practitioner, for whom the book is written, but the specialist will find it well worth careful study.

Mazÿck P. Ravenel

The World's Gold. A Discussion of the Geological Occurrence of Gold, Its Geographical Distribution, Its Extraction and Methods of Milling, and the Economy of Gold. By L. De Launay, Professor in the École Supérieure des Mines. Cloth; 5½ x 8⅛ ins.; pp. 242. $1.75 net. New York, G. P. Putnam's Sons.

The preface of this work is an interesting thesis on the function of gold in the world's industrial development. According to the author, it is not only the basis of all wealth, but it is "the whole of wealth"; furthermore, it is a great civilizer and one of the most powerful agencies making for the development of the resources of the world.

The chapters on the geological occurrence and geographical distribution of gold are of necessity, in a work of this character, unsatisfactory and far from exhaustive. The same may be said, and with greater force, of the chapter on extraction and dressing of gold ores—practically no definite or clear ideas can be acquired by a perusal of these chapters. However, from the standpoint of the economist, scientific details are not necessary.

The main value of this work lies in the chapter on the Economy of Gold, and it may be said that in this respect it is a positive and exceedingly valuable addition to the literature on the relation of gold to money and commerce.

L. de Launay examines the problem of the future supply of gold from the scientific standpoint and correlates the influence of this supply with prices and the movement of capital from the financial standpoint. Thus he performs the rare service of welding together the technical and economical aspects of the subject.