PERSONAL EQUATION AMONG PHYSICIANS

IT IS SOMETHING THAT HAS TO BE RECKONED WITH.

Why Is It Thatof a Given Number of Practitioners Equally Informed in the Technique of Their Profession, Some Will Succeed While Others Will Fail.

At the recent session in this city of the Interstate Homeopathic association, Dr. J. T. Greenleaf, of Owego, N. Y., read a paper upon "The Personal Equation," which seemed worthy of circulation among laymen. Below are its substantial portions:

"With his eye rivetted to the strilled end of the mighty tube of the largest telescope in the world, sits an old man gray-haired and bent with wears of study, but with his mind trained to observe the celestial bodies, and to calculate the grand eyeres of the

swinging planets. The giant machine is fevel on his axis, and its lateral motion is inhibited, and it is trained on a part of the heavens in which a star is expected to appear. Slowly the distant globe circles into the telescopic field; when it reaches the exact center, the venerable man withdraws his gaze from an accurate clock, but between the en line and that when the astronomer looks at the clock four second inter-

In a far away land, in an observatory supported by a paternal government, sits a man 45 years of age. His eye is bright, his face unwemkled, his shoulders square and his figure is upright and faultiess. He, too, is watching the same planet, and is teno-ting the time of its crossing the meriand the time that his lips report the fact, three seconds intervene.

One some lone isle of the northern seas, there is a party of savants, sent by the government of Queen Victoria to observe some stellar phenomenon. Their instruments are small enough to be portable, but still accurate, and scientifically adequate for the work in hand. The one man who looks through the yellow tube requires only two reconds to report what he sees.

THE PERSONAL EQUATION

All these men are trained observers, all are anxious to be exact and definite, but they are human, and it takes just the time above for the brain of each to formulate and express the word that announces that the impact of the waves of light is perceived by the retina. A new world may be discovered, or an old and well wern theory may be substantiated; in either case, it takes just the time mentioned This two seconds, or three seconds, or four seconds, is the personal equation of each man.

In other matters, and on other errands, each man has his peculiarities. his "personal equation." Some cynic has said that every man has his weak spot, and one optimist has declared that every man has his good side. For today, then, let the syllogism

stand thus; major premise, every man has his personal equation; minor premise, physicians are men; conclusion, physicians have their personal given a number of good men (all the graduates of all the medical schools in any one year, for instance), accept the postulate that all are equally well equipped for their work, both in personal address, in acquirement, in the theoretical as well as clinical department, that all have a fair start in the wide world of the sick and suffering, why is it that of the gross number only 28 per cent, ever succeed as physicians, either in their ability to cure the sick, to snatch death's victims from his grasp, to win and hold the respect and confidence of the community, or to make a living for themselves and families.

MEN DIFFER AS MEN.

It is manifestly idle for the writer of this paper to say to a body of intelligent, well read and practical men like this, that to diagnose the case, venture a careful prognosis, give the necessary advice as to antisepsis, hygiene and care, and to prescribe the right drug, or perform the correct surgical operation, is by no means all of the science of medicine, or the art of surgery. All this is requisite to success, but it is not what makes the successful physician. Without considering each man's "personal equation," it will be impossible to suggest the cause of failure, or to indicate the foundation of success in a given case

In the cases cited in this paper, each astronomer knows his personal equation, and that figure is deducted from every report that he makes.

Other things being equal, the first and most important thing is to know one's "personal equation." How quickly does the community learn this, and how readily do they discount what a physician reports! The man who is given to sombre theas and to gloomy prognosis is rated as an atarmist while the happy, merry, carcless man, who is always hopeful, is given all the confidence he deserves, but no

AMUSEMENTS.

Just here comes the delicate task of touching and commenting upon the doctor's amusements, horse racing, ball but the sudden gush of tears which games, golf, billiards, card, swapping now and then blinds a nurse in the yarns in saloons and eigar stores, pho- hospital wards at Montauk would tography, microscopy, chemistry, bot- prove the contrary. Especially hard any, ceramics, literary work, all of these are the well known methods of periences, when life clobe low and the "knitting up the ravelled sleeve of strain of slience and darkness is over care" in use by physicians. There is | them. Said one soft-eyed night nurse

no doubt that he is free to choose, but there is also a thoroughly established rule, that a man's personal equation can be quite easily learned from these voluntary evidences of his nature. A colebrated humorist has said that if he had a mule that wouldn't kick. bite nor strike, he would watch him closely to see where the devil did work out, and the very fact that all must have a change, and enjoy a daily recreation, is quite safe basis for the effort of learning a man's individuality The community is watching their phy-cians and they are pretty apt and fair judges of character.

Let the physician study himself, and if he finds that any element of his personal equation is detracting from his fulfilment of that which he desires to be, let him abandon it at once.

If there is a special love for some branch or department of medicine or surgery, make a specialty of it. The physician spends a goodly amount of time with himself and "puts himself in the patient's place" and so learns to correct his own peculiarities to become at length "teres atout retundus.

AVOID CONCEIT.

No profession conduces so much to onceit, to arbitrariness and to dictatorial ways as the practice of medi-cine. As soon as the front door of the patron's house is shut behind him, the physician becomes the autocrat of the eye-piece and notes the exact min- the house, his will is law, his every ute, second and hour on the dial of request is complied with, his slightest suggestion is noticed and obeyed. This time at which the star crosses the give all tends to make him insufferably concelled and well nigh unbearable.

What is the remedy for correcting this objectionable part of the personal equation? The answer is not far to seek. Attend medical societies, and advance your own opinions. If one gets the worst of a discussion it will show him his error; if he is right, it will but benefit the rest of the profession. At all events it will bring about a salutary meckness, and to a certain Between the critical moment extent, reduce one's opinions of himself and his attainments to a correct and wholesome minimum. Incidentally, but of far more importance, is the amount of knowledge and the new ideas and methods that may be glenn-

PUBLIC HEALTH.

Medicine is a liberal profession, and the practitioner thereof should never forget to make a study of public health part of his personal equation. He should look to the sanitary condition of his town, he should be foremost in having properly built school houses, he should not neglect the prevention crime as well as disease. He should have an eye to the testimony of experts in the courts of his immediate vicinity. He should see to it that the eak and feeble are not oppressed in that section of the country which is blessed by his ministrations. He should foremost in fostering and promoting all kinds of moral reform.

Another barnnels that fastens itself the null of his professional ship is arelessness in collecting his accounts The physician is a public benefactor, whether he will, or no, yet he should lo one of two things, make good round harges, and collect them, or give his services. He puts the value on his efforts when he makes the charge, If his patron cannot pay, have it understood that the account is wholly remitted-no half-way work.

THE PATIENT'S FRIEND.

large enough to allow of his attainment of the friendship of his patients. No one likes to be treated in a purely professional way. A little care given to the surroundings of the case, a few well-chosen questions as to the daily life and circumstances, soon out the tactful man in possession of data sufficient to permit him to obtain an in telligent and helpful influence over the sick person, which not only conduces to immediate recovery, but lays the foundation for continued association in the days of health, and subsequent mutual labor, in good ways, and for good works.

For all the foregoing, the writer claims no patient, no position of originality, and he disclaims any intention o pedantic instruction. He would not iare, even to seem to lecture this body

of able men. Standing before a body of personal very peculiar patient. He lay stolidly riends, like those assembled here, the writer is always impressed with the thought that none of us are at our best, that much that is high, noble and grand lies dormant in the hearts and I couldn't induce him to speak at first, ouls of these friends, and he is ever and if took ten minutes of coaxing to on the alert to help to bring it out, to persuade him to swallow a teaspoonful have his trusted and loved brethren of beef tea. Finally he did so, howtake the place they deserve, and which ever, and after another five minutes s often usurped by inferior minds, be- he consented to take another and then ause of their better understanding of themselves.

This paper, then, is simply suggestve, a bare and bald outline to be filled Why, he laughed and joked and made n and amplified by each one for him- such grimaces that my orderly and I elf. Just a puff of powder, and a little were convulsed with laughter, and and to log the nerves of anyone who even the weak men on the neighboring may be good enough to receive it in cots feebly joined in the laugh. His the spirit in which it is uttered, hoping nonsense was absolutely contagious, that we may all become like the Great so much so that at last I was obliged Physician, who not only "went about to slip away into the dispensary to doing good," but who also "spoke as give him an opportunity to sober down one having authority, and not as the

LAUGHED TO THE LAST.

A Nurse's Story of a Soldier Who gave me a knowing smile as I leaned Died with a Smile.

From Collier's Weekly. Some one has said that trained nurses grew hardened to their work. upon these nurses are the night ex-

Sunday School Lesson for October 30.

Messiah's Kingdom Foretold.

ISA, XI, 1-10.

BY J. E. GILBERT, D. D., LL. D.,

Secretary of American Society of Religious Education.

CONTEXT-The student should read | man will possess a high order of in- | dumb animals were his friends and chapters vil, vili, ix, and x, thereby obtaining the perspective of our lesson. Strengthened by the promise (vi. 13) indicating a restoration of Israel | beginning of the sinful career of the Whatever is detrimental must be given through a spared remnant, Isaiah be- race (Gen. iii. 6) and in all ages since up, whether it be manner, habit, matters of dress, or hobbies or fads. Cut words were spoken to Ahaz, the grand-them all off, as a cancer is excised from son of Uzzlah (vil. 1), warning him of things, has been through he diminished ginning the prophet unfolded the future of surrounding nations, but always with an undertone of tender regard for the chosen people (x. 20), and with his eye fixed upon their salvation after centuries of spoilation because of their sins. There is, however, constantly manifest the spirit of confidence in Jehovah, in whose power he had been predicted. As the consum-mation we are introduced to the eleventh chapter which treats of Messiah's kingdom. In the first five verses we have a description of the King, in the

DESCENT-Messich shall come in the line of Jesse, the father of David (1 Sam. xvi. D. and so He shall be David's seed (John vii. 42), as the Jews well understood. This was according to the promise made to David (Psalm exxxii. 11), and kept in mind by the prophets (Jer. xxii, 5) causing the entire nation to reverence the Great King, and explaining the expressions given concerning Jesus (Matt ix, 27). But in our lesson(Verse 1), it is said "a rod shall come forth out of the stem of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots." This is in accordance with the figure in vi. 13, where the tree is cut down, referring to the destruction of Judah, leaving ed from the papers and discussions of only a small traction with vitality sufficient to produce a branch. Messiah shall be outgrowth of the remaining picty in the wasted nation. The title thus given to Him was highly appropriate and it afterward filled a large place in sacred literature (Zech. III. 6). The unfavorable origin might prejudice some against Messiah (Isa. lili. 2).

> SPIRIT-The descent from David acounted for the humanity of Messiah and established the faithfulness of God in keeping His covenant (I Kings viii. 34). But the stock, far above the averwas sinful (2 Sam. xii. 9), and could not by any law of heredity produce the exalted person who occupied such a conspicuous position in prophetic thought. Isaiah therefore declared that another and higher nature should be bestowed, able to contend and use this lower nature (Verse 2). The one came from the old stump of a broken people, the other from "the spirit of the Lord." That spirit, characterized by wisdom, counsel, might and knowledge, was after all the main thing. It had been given by measure to all men (Titus ii. 11), but to Him it would be without measure (John III, 24). That spirit was for limited time with other men (Gen. vi. 3), but it rested upon Measiah, becoming part of His natforming His personality (Matt.

WISPOM-The prophet next shows the human. The Messiah, this God- in the time of man's innocence the ness.

"Oh, ir you could have seen my first

patient! He was a lovely boy of nine-

teen from somewhere out on the Mex-

ican border. In the four days in which

he was under my charge I grew very

attached to him, but suddenly, when

was perfectly sure he would soon

et well, a violent change came and

in spite of every care he died. My

heart failed me completely, but there

was no time for weakness. Too many

"I was put in another ward tempor-

arily and took especial charge of one

staring at me without a particle of

expression in his eye, and by his

apathy rather than by real opposition

refused all nourishment and medicine.

another, the stolid expression present-

'If you could have seen the change!

and incidentally to prepare some

malted milk. When I returned five

ninutes later his expression was still

laughing one, and the orderly, although attending another patient.

over the weak man's cot. But this

time the patient old not speak. He

was dead, with the smile still on his

lips and a strange, half-mischievous

Steel Is King.

In the steel rail we have an example that in point of magnitude is one of the striking features of the present century

It is overlapping all directions as to cli-mate and territory and is destined to span the globe with its ever-increasing

gridiron of lines. In ship-building steel is superseding the old-time wooden ship, and is consigning the timber of the oak

and teak to humbler uses. In bridge building it is already in ascendancy, the forme and not the forest supplying mate-

rial. In the construction of tunnels and other underways steel and masonry al-

struction of the huge edifices that rise shove the chimneys and spires of the modern city the now ubiquitous metal is

paramount. In the freight carrying service of railways the steel car is becoming more than a suggestion. The barge that carries grain and coal and that finds its way along winding and shallow rivers and along the canals that intersect cities,

farms and industrial centers is coming over to the steel maker. In nearly all new form of machinery, implements and

tools the outcome of the mine, the fur-nace and the rolling mill is finding place. In storage elevators and tanks and down

o the humble barrel the same is observible. Metallurgy in all its history, from

Vulcan to Bessemer, has never had so

large a field of human service or so mani-fest a destiny as at present. What the

twentieth century may bring about re-mains to be seen. It goes with the tell-

ready dispute the honors, and in the cor

vink ling-ring about his eyes."

From the Age of Steel.

ly charging into ore of intelligence.

cases were needing attention.

tellect (Verse 3). Most men, indeed, to some extent, all men, are under the dominion of the senses. This was the ter (Cor. iv. 4). Man has been the victim of his bodily appetites. But this new King of men would have a "quick understanding," a clever per-ception of the things of the Lord, and y that he would adjust all things. How fully this man illustrated in the case of Jesus, proving him to have been the Person foreseen by Isaiah, trusted (x 33) to accomplish all that appears from several familiar passages. We read that when twelve years (Isa, Hii: 11.) To make all men know of age, Jesus confounded the wise men (Luke ii. 47), that in His ministry He was more than a match for the learned doctors who were frequently silencother five the condition of His king- ed (Matt. xxii. 46), and that the officers sent to arrest Him confessed His superior wisdom (John vii. 46).

> JUDGMENT-Isaiah then shows that his person of such exalted nature and of such excellent wisdom will adminiser the government in a masterly way, for such was the work of the judge. Messiah will take His seat of authority. His garments fastened with righteousness-His official robes bound about Him by the Spirit of justice (Verse 5). He will defend the cause of the poor as against the rich. He will reprove the oppressor in the interest of the humble (Verse 4), a prediction also fulfilled in the case of Jesus (Matt. xl. 5). So much for the benevolent side of Messiah's dealing with men, His pity and help for the unfortunate. There will also be a form of stern everity toward the ungodly, whom He will punish (Verse 4). He will smite the earth with the rod of His mouth (Mat. iv. 6). He will slay the wicked with the breath of His lips. It will be officed that in these figures of speech there is a plain reference to the fact that Messiah will employ the truth for the accomplishment of His purpose, This corresponds with the utterance of Jesus (John xviil, 37).

PEACE-What shall be the internal ndition of a kingdom ruled by such a king in such a spirit? The prophet answers (Verse 6) by several figurative expressions showing that all will be peaceful. This accords with representations made in other parts of Scripture (Micah iv. 3). Here those who have hitherto been enemies engaged in conflict will dwell in concord the wolf with the lamb, the leopard with the kid, the young lion with the fatting, all submissive to a little child. This was not merely a change in the character and conduct of men, but of the beasts as well (Ezek, xxxiv, 25). Elsewhere it is intimated that God would even make a covenant with the beasts by which they would more fully respect the rights of men (Hos. ii. 18). Those that are now ferocious will be bear and the cow feeding together in the same field, and the lion eating straw like the ox (Verse 77). All shall to Him, (Matt. xxviii: 18-19) that a new dwell in security (Verse 8). This will the result of uniting the Divine and be a return to that happy day when

largest resources of native ore, the high-est efficiency in manufacture and the most intelligent in enterprise and aggressiveness will be the premier of nations. o far as material prosperity goes. Steel

WHAT FOREIGNERS THINK OF OUR RAILWAYS.

What a few foreigners have said of nerican railways may be of interest: Li Hung Chang, the great viceroy of hina, said: "Nowhere else in the world are there such fast and luxurious trains s in America.

Marquis Yamagata, field marshal of the apanese empire, said: "The speed, the comfort, the luxury of your railroads, is marvel to me. Prince Halkoff, imperial minister of

railroads of Russin, said: "There is outhing in Europe to compare with your ailreads. Sir Henry Truman Wood, special representative of the Eritish government to the world's fair in 1893, said that "nowhere in Europe could there be found such luxury in travel and such excellent

are given on the rallways of Paul Leroy Beaulieu, one of the great-

ing, however, that the country with the est economists of Europe, writes: "The continent of Europe, by the bonds in which it has always held private enterprise, has been able to follow only with a tardy step the example of the United States, which nation has realized in its railroad system three ideal conditions, rapidity, efficiency and a good market, while Europe enveloped in administrative formalism was destined to attain neithe of these three conditions."

WELCOME.

Love keeps the door with willing hand To open at thy light command. The woody ways are bare and chill, No more the robin's mellow thrill Nor lavish summer fills the land. The barren trees all darkened stand And moan their woes, a cheerless band. Night shadows gather 'round him, still Love keeps the door.

Yet these fast graying embers, fanned By hope's dear wings the darkness till Come thou from o'er the sunset hill. Late coming from the shadow land? Love keeps the door.
--Will H. Chandler, in Washington Star.

Before it is too late, stop that succession of colds that means nothing more nor less than catarrie. Stop that succession of come that means nothing more nor less than catarrie. Stop the suffering. Stop the disagreeable catarrial discharges that are so humiliating to you and offensive to your friends. Don't let it run on until your condition causes you to be astracted as if you were a leper.

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Mr. C. G. Archer, of Brewer, Maine, writes as follows:—"I have had catarrh for several years. Water would run from my eyes and nose for days at a time. About four months ago I was induced to try. Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Fowder, and times using the wonderful remedy I have not had an artack. I would not be without it." At druggists, Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart cures all cases of organic or sympathetic disease of the heart—rolleves in a minutes. Dr. Agnew's Liver Pills are at once a taild cathartic, Invigorator and system renovator. Inc., for 40 doses. Dr. Agnew's Ointment relieves in a day and ourse ecrema, salt theum and all diseases of the skin. Cures piles in a to a nights.

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subjects (Gen. il. 19-20). AVegetable Preparation for As-similating the Food and Regula-ting the Stomachs and Bowels of KNOWLEDGE,-One other feature f Messiah's reign is mentioned, the

eal cause of the other conditions, as is

ndicated by the connective. (Verse 9).

The knowledge of the Lord shall fill the earth as the waters cover the sea.

This statement occurs elsewhere. (Hab

II. 14) Ignoranc of God is assigned as

the cause of sin and trouble, (Hos. iv

6.) Our Savior declared that the Jews

persecuted Him because they did no

know Him, (Luke xxiii: 34) and Paul

alludes to the fact. (1 Cor. ii: 8). On the

ontrary we learn from many passages

the value of knowledge, (Psalm xix: 7)

as a liberating force, (John viii: 32) and

as a means of growth and progress

the Lord, (Heb viii: 11) will therefore

e the end of earth's sin and shame and

the source of all blessedness. But this

knowledge of God which is life, (John

xvii: 3) is not merely an intellectual per

ception of truths pertaining to Him, valuable as that is, but rather that ex-

crience of the heart which comes from

direct and personal fellowship. (I John

ENSIGN.—Thus far our lesson has dealt with Messiah and His people. The

peace, safety and knowledge predicted

were in His Kingdom, which would be

set up only in the hearts of believers.

(Luke xvii: 21.) But that kingdom

would have a commanding influence

same Messiah shall be an ensign, a

badge, or signal to be seen by other

people, (Isa, v. 26) a flag or banner

bout which they may rally, (Psalm I.x.

4). This banner flung out to the breeze

the emblem of truth and righteousness

of love and justice, shall awaken hope

in the minds of the oppressed, and the

Gentiles, the people who know not God, shall seek unto it. (Rom. xv: 10.) This

agrees with Christ's prediction. (John

xii: 32.) This is the same as to say

that whatever glory there may be in

most glorious, the chief object of in-

the kingdom the king himself will be

terest, the source of benign influence

the power attracting men to himself.

And as a result He will experience sat-

isfaction among his people, (Isa, liii

CONCLUSION.-The preaching of the

cospel has been generally conducted

upon the supposition that the end to be

sought is the salvation of individuals from evils that may befall them in

a future life. This is part of the pur-

earth, as already described. So John

preached, (Matt. iii: 2) as Jesus did af

terward. (Matt iv: 17.) Entrance into

this kingdom was the first duty, (Matt.

vi; 13) enjoined upon men, sought by

all agencies set in motion, (Matt. xvi

19) to be kept constantly in view, and

to be followed by earnest desire and

labor for the extension of the kingdom.

(Matt. vi: 10.) The highest type of a

New Testament Christian is a man who

believes that Jesus was the Messiah

oretold by the prophets, who accept

Him as saviour and master, (Matt. xi

28-29) and who seeks to bring the world

social order may be established in

which shall be peace and righteous

pose, but by far the larger design is to set up Messiah's kingdom on the

upon those outside, (Verse 10,) This

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callers at their purlors one trial bottle of their Complexion Tonic absolutey free; and in order that those who cannot call or who live away from New York may be benefited, they will send one bottle to any address, all charges prepaid, on the recept of 25 cents (stamps or silver) to cover cost of packing and delivering. The price of this wonderful tonic is \$1.00 per bottle, and this liberal offer should be embraced by all.

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110 Misses sell's Complex on Tonic has a most exhibitanting effect upon the cuti-The Misses Bell have just published their new book, 'Secrets of Beauty. This valuable work is free to all desiring it. The book treats exhaustively of the importance of a good complexion; tells how a woman may acquire beauty and keep it. Special chapters on the care of the hair; how to have luxuriant growth; harmless methods of making the hair preserve its natural beauty and color, even to advanced age. Also instructions how to banish superfluous hair from the face, neck and arms without minry to the

the Meses ocit's Complex on Tonic has a most exhilarating effect upon the cuticie, absorbing and carrying off all impurities which the blood by its natural action is constantly forcing to the surface of the skin. It is to the skin what a vitalizing tonic is to the blood and nerves, a kind of new life that immediately exhilarates and strengthens wherever applied. Its tonic effect is felt almost immediately, and it speedily banishes, forever from the skin, freckles, pimples, blackheads, moth patches, wrinkles, liver spots, roughness, oiliness, eruptions, and discolorations of any kind.

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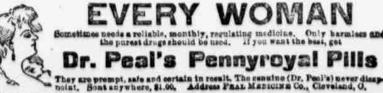
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