

would benefit by ultimately having an outstanding, educated man, a man of broad culture and matured experience, in charge of every store; which statement does not involve the absurd requirement of his physical presence every minute, a requirement which in fact would render its realization impossible and one which is the precise point which those holding the views embodied in the expression of Professor Beard insist upon as essential. The title "Registered Pharmacist" would have a new significance; the dignity of the profession would be such as to attract the keenest and most ambitious minds. Thus, limiting the number of stores, and incidentally raising its standard of pharmacy is almost as simple, when shown how, as Columbus' problem of standing an egg on end, or raising the earth with a lever if the fulcrum is provided.

For the body pharmaceutic has many members yet all the members do not have the same office. To some is given the work of teaching, to some administration, to some compounding—diversities in operation but the same common end worketh in all. The technician cannot say to the manager "I have no need of you," nor the manager to the teacher "I have no need of you," if all were managers where were the compounding; if all were teachers where were the managing? Let not one member assume that because another member seem to him to have no function that hence he has none, even those members which seem to be more feeble are necessary and upon them we should bestow more abundant attention.

Let us not continue to follow erroneous procedure such as the removal of ductless glands because their function is not known nor make the same type of error with the members of our profession. Having then functions differing according to the office that is given us whether teaching, let us teach; or he that dispenses, dispense; or on administration, with diligence; efficient in business, fervent in spirit, serving the public, rejoicing in the hope of a body of pharmaceutic fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part making increase for the body and a larger and more efficient service for the public and for humanity.

MERCER'S APOTHECARY SHOP IN FREDERICKSBURG, VA., RESTORED.

A brief sketch of Dr. Hugh Mercer and a picture of the building in which he had his apothecary shop will be found in the *JOURNAL* for June 1926. The writer possesses a statement of Mercer & Julian—reduced copy will be found on page xxiii in the *JOURNAL* for August 1927. A press report of the restoration of the Apothecary Shop follows:

"Hugh Mercer's apothecary shop at Fredericksburg, Va., in which General George Washington maintained a desk for twelve years, has been recently restored to its former condition at a cost of \$20,000 through the activities of the Citizens' Guild. Electric lights have been removed from the front and every effort has been made to give the building the appearance it had during the days of the American Revolution. Period furnishings gleaned from far and near, including bottles used prior to 1775, have been used in the restoration.

"The building was erected before 1750, and Washington had a desk in the apothecary shop from 1764 to 1776, at which he transacted business whenever he went to Fredericksburg, where his mother lived until her death in 1789. It has been assumed 'that part of the business was concerned with the Washington estate, but much of it related to the services for state and country, in which he had the counsel of compatriots who met with him in Mercer's apothecary shop and around the open fireplace at Rising Sun Tavern.' General Mercer was a native of Scotland and was graduated from the School of Medicines at the University of Aberdeen in 1774. He died from wounds received at the battle of Princeton in January 1777."