

**WOMAN'S INTUITION IN MEDICINE.**—In the course of his address delivered at the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Medical School of Harvard University on the 17th inst., Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes gave expression in the following paragraph to his conception of the part which woman might profitably play in medicine:

“I have often wished that disease could be hunted by its professional antagonists in couples—a doctor and a doctor's quick-witted wife making a joint visit and attacking the patient—I mean the patient's malady, of course—with their united capacities; for I am quite sure that there is a natural clairvoyance in a woman, which would make her as much the superior of a man in some particulars of diagnosis as she certainly is in distinguishing shades of color. Many a suicide would have been prevented if the doctor's wife had visited the victim the day before it happened. She would have seen in the merchant's face his impending bankruptcy, while her stupid husband was prescribing for his dyspepsia and endorsing his note. She would recognize the love-lorn maiden by an ill-adjusted ribbon, a line in the features, a drop in the attitude, a tone in the voice, which mean nothing to him; so the brook must be dragged tomorrow. The dual arrangement of which I have spoken is, I suppose, impracticable; but a woman's advice, often determines her husband's prescription. Instead of a curtain lecture on his own failings, he gets a clinical lecture. On the puzzling case, it may be, of a neighbor suffering from the complaint known to village nosology as ‘a complication of diseases,’ which her keen eye sees into as much better than his, as they would through the eye of a small-sized needle. She will find the right end of a case to get hold of, and take the snarles out as she would out of a skein of thread or a ball of worsted, which he would speedily have reduced to a hopeless tangle.”

It must not be forgotten that Dr. Holmes is a poet, and poets have a license to say things which, coming from prosaic people, would sound very much like non-sense.