QUACK MEDICINES.

Thoreau, one of the profoundest of the Concord philosophers, used to say that the most instructive part of a newspaper is its advertisements. To the like of Thoreau, no doubt this is ever true. Was it Goethe who said that to understand an author, you must read between the lines of his book? Most persons probably judge others by what they actually say and do, notwithstanding the caution given on high authority, "judge not according to outward appearance."

Nothing should be read between the lines more carefully than newspapers. Nothing they contain reveals so much to those who have eyes to see, as their advertisements. Through these, the pros and cons advertise themselves to an extent they do not know. When the simplicot said a certain thing "must be true, because it was in the newspaper," there was more truth in it than is commonly believed.

What is in books and in newspapers, is true to those who can read between the lines. Quack advertisements may lie never so fearfully about the stuffs offered for sale; but they speak truly of those who make and sell them, and not less truly of their accomplices of the press that for gain and greed, will advertise and pump their foul preparations. When conductors of public journals are so poor in pocket and principle as to lend themselves so foul a work, they should be read always between their lines. They and their advertising patrons in such business should be read out of their occupation by a wholesome regard for the moral and material health of the community. They should be made to feel that no disease proposed to be cured by their nostrums, is half so dangerous and deadly as their own puerile presence while engaged in such a calling. Sword, poulence and famines combined, are to be preferred to such a presence. Most of the abominations advertised as "Universal Panacea" and "Matchless Sanatives" are absolutely hurtful, and those that are harmless are so only because they have always been so harmless. The latter may only rob the simple of their money; but the former take both money and life.

Quack Medicine vendors, however rich, proud, and pretentious, Feticides and Infanticides, should be chased together and regarded with shuddering horror by the whole human race. And yet in every large city they hold more control over the public health and public morals, than all the regular medical schools and the pulpit combined. And by the most wily and diabolical, they continue through the newspaper press to beguile the wise and prudent, the high as well as the low, the rich, the poor, the religious, the reprobate, and levy upon them all the most fearful contributions.

There is a class of diseases designated "imoral diseases" which many physicians refuse to treat or approach. For these there are quack nostrums abundant; and probably there is not one silent quaker that does not publish a class of advertisements to pollute its pages at all, that does not directly or indirectly proclaim them. The religious papers are surely no exceptions. Those of certain organs, "male or female, no matter from what cause originating, no matter of what long standing, (the very language of the advertisements), are to be cured by these creatures with medicines at "one dollar and twenty-five cents a bottle, or six bottles for six dollars and twenty-five cents."

It is not in the Herald and Sunday Mercury alone that such advertisements are found. They are in the most orthodox and widely read of the religious newspapers. And in these papers they are borne into the most godly households; laid on the same centre table with the Bible, the prayer book, the church almanac. They are in papers that lie on family altars, that are mentioned gratefully in the morning family prayer as blessings enjoyed under the smile of Providence; papers that are taken by good men and godly women to the conference meetings, that the revival and missionary intelligence may be read for the encouraging and quickening of the church. And thus these frightful evils become almost as much a part of the very bone and marrow of our moral and "material existence."

The men and the women, for such they must be called, who manufacture and vend these dreadful destroyers of the national health and life, beginning with the embryo and ending at whatever age death closes the scene, in infancy or tottering age, it is easy to denounce; to holp up spiritual and moral ex- 
cration. But what shall be said of those editors and proprietors of public journals who give them and their murderous work currency, re- spectability. may, baptize them into the sacred name of religion by their co-operative? Thoreau and Goethe were right. Let us learn to read authors between their lines, and to judge of newspapers largely by their advertisements. Thus we shall get an autobiography of all the authors, and learn the true quality and character of our newspaper press.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN THE M. E. CHURCH.

Some of the religious organizations are advocating the right of woman to the ballot with most commendable earnestness. It is particularly so with the Methodists. Bishop Simpson has been for some years an eloquent champion for that inestimable and inalienable right. Zion's Herald, the New England organ of the denomination, is bold and constant in its demand, and, moreover, for perfect equality in the church, irrespective as well of race and color as of sex. It contends that there should be no exclusively colored churches or congregations, and that an able and faithful colored minister should never be refused by a white church and congregation. The Herald, by the way, is among the best-looking and best-conducted journals among all our multitudinous exchanges. "The Revolutionists," who have always been in the habit of greasing the well-dressed and extremely well-decorating "Organ of New England Methodism." We even dislike to pinion it with our inexpressible scissors, and would not to-day only wish to give our readers an extract from a published sermon by Rev. J. S. Barrows, recently delivered before the Charleston, Mass., Female Moral Reform Society, who reasons for us from the ballot are not often presented or in a more impressive manner:

In the present stage of American civilization, I can see but one sure and certain cure for this and other minor evils of the same family. And I am quite sure there is salvation therein, and in no other. I am well aware you will not all agree with me. But the time is coming, and at no distant day, when the majority of intelligent and good men and women will see and accept.

Give woman the ballot! This will change her reading, her thinking, her work, her position, her influence, and change all for the better. This will emancipate her, educate her, dignify and empower her. She will then be something more than what she is now, with too much truth, charged with being a thing, and a playing at that. Then she will have something better, and better than the being of and think of and think of and think of and think of. She will confer her daughters not to dresses to appear in society, and to "catch" a husband, as through the great ends of life worn here, but to think, to be, to act.

If I mistake not, woman is educated up to about as high as she can be; as much as this must come next. And comes it will. The world moves. No form of human slavery or oppression, of inequality is permanent or always extensive. Righteousness and wrong, as and otherwise, they will ultimately fall of their own rot- tenness. Wrong has inherent weakness, and is finite; right has imperishable strength, and is eternal.

It is objected that it will unsex women; despise her of that which we so much prize in her character, that womanly gentleness, that sweet amiability, that tender-heartedness, that high-toned virtue and purity, that sweet, confiding love, that spiritual, heavenly some- thing which is unapproachable, but which we recognize and adore. If the objection is sufficiently serious and worthy to deserve an answer, then those characteristics of womanliness more than half their worth. The woman's