

Right to the Point.

The writer was recently informed of a certain wealthy lady in this city, whose servant became afflicted with eye trouble. She forthwith sent the servant to one of our leading oculists. The doctor, when asked for his bill, replied: "Five dollars"—she having made in all five visits to his office, at the end of which time she was pronounced cured. A few days later the lady herself had the same condition develop, and at once consulted the same oculist. She made the same number of visits to the doctor as her servant; whereupon she, too, was cured. On the first of the month following, the doctor sent in his bill for fifty dollars, upon receipt of which the lady hastened to his office and demanded satisfaction, why, under exactly similar circumstances, her servant should be charged five dollars, and she herself fifty; that it was outrageous, etc., etc. The doctor's office was filled with patients, who were greatly amused, apparently, at his expense. However, he had an expedient; and turning, in his mild-mannered tone, he said: "Five dollars, madam." Turning to the cashier, he said: "Cashier, place Mrs. So-and-so in the pauper list." The lady, finding herself caught in her own trap, had slyly left the doctor's office.—Portion of editorial on "Doctor's Bills," in *North American Journal of Diagnosis and Practice*.