

SCOTTISH PROFESSIONAL MEN

The Medical Profession

AMONG the leading professional men of the West those of the medical profession hold a most prominent place. No man is likely to be more necessary or can gain a stronger hold of the affections of the people than the skilful and self-denying physician. Among all the characters depicted by Ian Maclaren in the "Bonnie Brier Bush" none so attracts us as that of Dr. McClure. We may not be able to picture the country doctor in the West with the idealistic skill with which Dr. Watson has painted his hero, but we know of scores of cases where in the midst of poverty, disease, and crime the doctor has been a true messenger of pity and helpfulness. Very often those who are diseased or vicious are poor, and so are unable to reward the doctor for his service or attention. As all the world knows, the ethics of the profession are to refuse help and treatment to no one who asks it, whatever be the financial circumstances or unworthiness of the patient.

Moreover, Scotland has turned out in proportion to its population a large share of the greatest physicians. Edinburgh had been a prolific seed-

