

The Wasp
February 6, 1886

Our Medical Column

A Distinguished Arrival

Joy to the afflicted. Mr. J. Poole Smerl, the world-renowned Patient, lately connected with the Imperial Hospital at Berlin, takes pleasure in announcing to the Medical Profession his arrival in San Francisco in a most precarious state of health. After a practice of more than thirty-five years in Europe and America, Mr. Smerl confidently assures young and struggling physicians that he is able to be cured of any disease in the world at a moderate charge. His certificates have appeared in the advertising columns of every American newspaper, and it is hardly too much to say that the medical almanacs hail him as their most valuable contributor. He is constantly afflicted with a large and various assortment of the diseases peculiar to, or most prevalent in, the locality where he is for the time being, and Physicians can select such as they wish to treat with perfect confidence of effecting a cure. Particular attention is given to incurable disorders, from which Mr. Smerl's recovery has always been singularly rapid, as any Physician having one of his testimonial certificates will bear witness. To proprietary medicines Mr. Smerl's physical system responds like a gun to the trigger. He has publicly attested the efficacy of more than five hundred, in diseases ranging from cholera infantum to puerperal fever. In his rooms will be found a copy of every certificate that he ever gave. They are open to inspection free of charge, and a day or two spent in their examination can hardly fail to be most profitable to Physicians in disclosing to them the vast multitude of diseases with which they may have to combat, but which in Mr. Smerl they may hope to overcome. Not only "the ills which flesh is heir to" but those injuries which it gets by bequest of accident will be seen by these certificates to be all curable—a fact material to proprietors of lotions, ointments, liniments and plasters. Nothing has ever yet been discovered or invented for the relief of human suffering and the prolongation of life that has not at some time or other snatched Mr. Smerl from an untimely grave and restored him to his particular field of usefulness. He is not affected with professional prejudice—the only thing he is not affected with—but is willing to undergo a cure by any known method of treatment: allopathic, homoeopathic, hydropathic, snidopathic, eclectic, electric, magnetic, emetic or energetic. The most perfect publicity can be relied on.

Mr. Smerl is at the Baldwidental Hotel. Office hours from 8 AM to 3 PM. Every disease a specialty, and all on tap.

N.B.—Beware of forged certificates bearing Mr. Smerl's name.

(Source: Archive.org: <https://archive.org/stream/waspjanjune188616unse#page/n12/mode/1up>)