The Indians showed no unwillingness that we should witness the performance, though formally they stopped if intruded upon by the whites, nor was their own conduct indicative of much respect. On the contrary they seemed highly amused with any curiosity, and made a good many, doubtless very waggish remarks on it. I should mention that it is not in order to stand up during the ceremony, as the practitioner is supposed to blow the evil spirit into the air, from which it might enter the body of any person standing erect, or if he did not, the fact might discourteously give the lie to his theory. They however allowed me to stand over the patient either in the charitable hope that I might succeed to the cast out devil or thinking that as a Boston I was proof against it.

If a Doctor becomes sick himself he usually charges it to the bad tamahnous of some other and rival medicine man. An old practitioner at Steilacoom, who had lived longer than usual in his profession was wiser in his generation, and attributed his illness to the spirit of the Black Hand. The fees of the medicine men are in proportion to the wealth of the patient or the magnitude of the disorder and consists of blankets, guns, hayiqua and other articles. If he fails and the sick man dies under his hands, his own life is forfeited unless he succeeds in appeasing the wrath of his friends. The profession is therefore a dangerous one, and the love of power