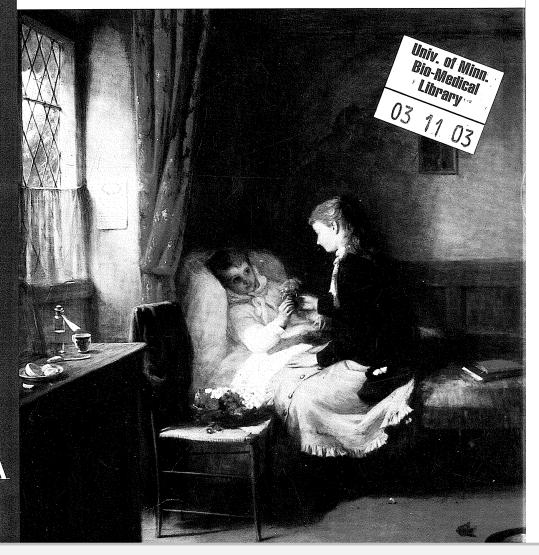
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On the cover: detail from *A Little Better*, by George B. O'Neil (1828–1917). Sutcliffe Gallery, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, Great Britain. Photograph © Fine Art Photographic Library, London/Art Resource, New York. Reproduced with permission.

The complete work is reproduced above.

This painting, titled A Little Better, is by George Bernard O'Neil (1828-1917). The date of the painting is uncertain, but it is representative of English genre paintings of the 19th century, many of which depicted scenes of family life in intimate settings. Childhood illnesses were a common subject. These images had a direct emotional impact because of the experience of all families of the era with sudden deaths of children caused by infectious diseases. Here, the artist shows a happy outcome, in which the ill child receives a visitor, perhaps an older sister, who brings flowers. The image has an engaging, if studied, informality, with the visitor's hat tossed on the floor and sunlight filling the room. On the chest by the window, the artist has painted "treatments," including a glass dispenser and lemons. The painting belongs to the Sutcliffe Gallery, Harrogate, North Yorkshire. (Ann Arvin, Cover Art Editor)

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