

treat or be treated at the public bar. By adhering to this rule much evil would be abated. But, gentlemen, my advice to you is to entirely abstain. You can do without stimulants, and thereby you will escape a danger which has ruined so many of the medical profession. Instead of allowing this time to be wasted or misspent, you should employ it, as I have before said, to add to your stock of general and special knowledge; and in the effort to strengthen the mind in those properties by which close and correct observation and reasoning, so essential to a successful physician, may be cultivated. In addition to those subjects which particularly belong to your profession, you may to advantage make yourselves familiar with some other science or study. The field of literature, of science, and the fine arts, may give you abundant opportunity for increasing your store of information, and for strengthening the mind by pleasant recreation.

In the relationship of professional life you must be just; just to those who employ you, just to yourself, and just to your fellow practitioner. Remember that a great trust is placed in your honour, your skill, your attention. Fail not to deserve this confidence, to respond to the just expectations, so far as you possibly can. But at the same time be just to yourselves. The claims of your practice do not require a sacrifice of health, nor a forgetfulness of comfort. A reasonable public will not expect it. Then you must be just to your fellow practitioner. To do this, I would simply ask you to adhere to the old but everlasting rule—olden, but golden—to do unto others as you would have others do unto you; or, in more modern phraseology, when the reputation of a *confidère* is involved, or called in question—put yourself in his place. The public often seem to delight in bringing medical men into antagonism; and then cry out about doctors differing. It is a safe rule, and just, to offer no opinion upon a case which may reflect upon another, except in his presence, and the necessity for doing even this is exceedingly rare. Always remember that your office is to treat disease to the best of your ability, and not to express your views upon the treatment pursued by another. In cases of consultation be careful to befriend your brother, so far as you truthfully can. Above all, do not, by word or sign, seek to gain popularity by disparaging another. Such conduct is not only dishonorable, but it will sooner or later be visited upon yourself.

Perhaps some of you have sought the honorable position of Doctors of Medicine, not with the view of practising, but for the satisfaction of possessing such qualifications. With such there still rests great responsibilities. There is a lamentable amount of ignorance with the public as to sanitary laws, and the necessity of hygienic measures to secure the