

to the approval of a discriminating profession and public, as shown by a steadily-increasing number of candidates for our degree. The number of our students has, in the session just closed, reached a figure never before equalled.

Gentlemen, it is customary, and we believe it to be the duty of those who have been your teachers, when you are thus dismissed, when the bond which has linked us for four years as preceptor and pupil is to be severed, to improve the occasion by addressing you a few words of counsel and of warning. Success in this the profession of your choice is, of course, the object of your ambition. With all our hearts, gentlemen, we wish you that success in the best sense of the word. We have endeavored to impress you with the fact that if you are to succeed in such a sense you must deserve it. By a successful life, I do not mean that of necessity it must be a long and brilliant one. There are many obscure village practitioners who, in reality, are more successful than others who seem to float on the highest wave of worldly prosperity. To the country or village practitioner are given opportunities for the development of independent judgment and self-reliance, faculties or qualities which often remain latent in his brother of the city, with ample opportunities for consultation when he is in deep water. In this way there are often developed in the country such men as we do not so often see in the city. If, in selecting the profession in which you this day graduate, you have looked to what is the true end of knowledge and work—to relieve the suffering and to minister to the comfort of man's estate, to lessen the sum of human sorrow on earth,—you have chosen a profession which yields the fullest satisfaction to your aim and the largest scope to your work. You have, during the last four years, been learning in order to act, the end of all knowledge being action, and the end of all action is to promote the welfare and the progress of mankind upon earth. In no profession are the opportunities of doing this good work so great and constant as in ours. To the least of us as to the greatest, occasions of tender sympathy and patient help occur every hour in the daily routine of our work; and no profession therefore rests so little