

life we have not attained to our majority, and what are twenty-one years in the history of a profession? and of youth no one can expect more than promise. And if we venture to think that we show some promise, I also fear that we have many of the faults of youth—faults possessed by youth, however well endowed, faults that pertain to young corporations, and to young nations no less than to individuals. But though there may be excuse for our faults, that is not the less reason that we should try to recognize them, and, so far as may be, correct them. It is in my mind that we expect too much, that we hope to go too fast, and that we are inclined to clamor for a degree of consideration which can only be accorded in the fulness of time, if ever. This consideration may take many forms; it may be more social recognition, it may be a higher scientific status, or it may be the confidence of the Legislature in entrusting us with more power to work out our ideas. But whatever form it is to take, it, in the very nature of things, can only be of slow growth, and by clamoring for it before it is accorded, we run the risk that, is incurred by the pushing youth, of being snubbed for our pains.

"This aspect of things is not confined to our own speciality, it has seldom been better expressed than in the words of Dr. Mitchell Banks, so well known here in the north, and I will read you an extract from his address given last year before the Medical Society of London. Speaking of various medical organizations, he said: 'To become a gigantic mutual admiration body is a mistake. There can be nothing worse for us than to be ignorant of our weak places, and the man who, like the late Dr. Milner Fothergill, points them out to us, is certain to be a thousand times more alive to the real dignity of our profession than the vulgar persons who boast so much about it and add so little to it. By mere virtue of our profession we do not rank socially with other professions—we have to make our social position for ourselves. So much the more reason why our whole profession, down to its youngest graduate, should be men of such good general culture that their company should be welcomed not merely by the rich (for of these I make but little account), but by all of those whose well-trained minds, whose liberal ideas, and whose refined manners, constitute the true society of our country.'

"So I shall not say much of the great strides that have been made, in the education gone through, in the standard of our professional examinations (our students have to pass the same preliminary examination in general education as the general medical students), nor of the progress which legislation has rendered possible in the hindering of irregular forms of practice—this has all been said before, *usque ad nauseam*; but will pass at once to point out the conditions which it appears to me are called for to make the successful practitioner. It goes without saying that he must