

Man is an animal, but one of the highest order, endowed with a delicate, nervous organism, acutely sensitive to pain, and external impressions. His whole nature resents and revolts against a cruel action or an unkind word, particularly if laid on a bed of sickness; but appreciates sympathy, kindness and consideration. Never forget, also, that wealth or position in life never makes us more sensitive to pain or suffering. The squalid hut of poverty may be the home of the most delicate and timid creature. Be kind, considerate and tender in your manipulations where suffering is, and you will receive gratitude in return. Particularly is this applicable to the fair sex. "Woman, fairest of creatures, God's last and best gift to man." Sensitive, modest, retiring, acutely intuitive, craving for sympathy and hope in suffering, for consideration and respect in health. In your relations with them never forget that "immodest words admit of no defence, for want of decency is want of sense." The medical profession is undoubtedly a grand profession, carrying with it enormous responsibilities, not alone of life, but of the happiness and characters of individuals which it is your duty to safeguard and protect. You are the guardian of inviolable secrets sacred as God's laws. Be not their betrayer. A word, a thought, an action from you may be the ruination or the salvation of a life. Yours it is to relieve pain, restore health, bring comfort, console and cheer; and though your remuneration be but the look of gratitude, your duty must never be slighted; never shirked. You need never expect to amass wealth from your profession. Many and many physicians are spending their lives "Dropping buckets into empty wells, and growing old in drawing nothing out." Instead of that, however, you may confidently expect, and will assuredly receive from many what to some natures is infinitely sweeter far, absolute confidence, implicit trust, grateful appreciation and undying love. And when your faculties begin to dim, and the sunset of life with evanescent ray lights up the gray hairs of declining years, and hoary age, ripened with deeds of love and charity, beckons you to your last resting place, you will have the keen satisfaction of being surrounded by those whose lives you have