

more. Remember that science looks to you for enlargement of its boundaries, by conquests in the domain of ignorance. I envy you your position on the threshold of the glorious twentieth century. The passing century has seen great victories, but the next one will see far more. Our profession is not complete, "*totus, teres, atque rotundus*," but I believe it has, as it were, just begun its beneficent career. The discovery of Anesthetics and of Antisepsis, and the creation of the science of Bacteriology have been the three great triumphs in medicine of the nineteenth century. You enter upon this great heritage, freely bequeathed to you by your predecessors; you begin where they left off. With such advantages you should make still greater advances, and I believe that you are on the eve of still more blessed and portentous discoveries. The cause and the cure of the great destroyers of human happiness and human life are to be discovered by you. You may vanquish cholera, consumption, typhus, yellow fever, scarlet fever, and other demons of disease, and there may be even in your own class—why not?—an unsuspected peer of Harvey, of Jenner, of Lister, of Pasteur. By carrying on to its utmost limits the good work already begun in the Jefferson Medical College, by earnestness in study, by exactness in observation, by gathering your facts, shrewdly comparing and correlating them, by wise experiments to ascertain the correctness of your conclusions, and then by publishing them for the information and enlightenment of the profession, you will fill out the duty you owe the Community, the College and the Profession. The Alumni of the Jefferson Medical College, whose ranks you join to-day, have reason to be proud of the contributions to science made by the dear old College. Its large and constantly enlarging body of Instructors have always been in the forefront in the intellectual

arena of Medicine. It was not less a matter of pride than of delighted surprise to me, not long since, when, apart from all the splendid work of its other Alumni scattered all over the world, *a partial compilation of the books and papers published in two years only by the teachers connected with the Jefferson showed that they had published 267 contributions to knowledge*—almost one paper every two working days. See that you keep up—nay more, that you extend this scientific spirit, so fruitful of blessings to humanity.

We are about entering on a new era in the history of the College. Its educational and charitable work have both been hampered for the past twenty years, to a degree only appreciated by those engaged in the daily work of teaching in the College and in caring for the immense number of patients in the dispensary service of the Hospital. Here again the community is in utter ignorance of the enormous amount of charitable work done in the Hospital. At the end of my recent term of service of only *eight weeks* in the clinic, I reported to the Trustees that in addition to all the work in the surgical wards, in which there were nearly 50 patients requiring daily care, *there had been 5005 visits and operations in these 48 working days, and exactly 200 operations done*, many of them of the most serious character, and without a single death.

This, mark you, is only the record of eight weeks of the entire year and in one department alone. If to these figures you add all the cases in the clinics for Medicine, Obstetrics, Gynæcology, Diseases of the Eye, of the Throat, of the Ear, of the Nervous System, of Children, of Orthopedic Surgery, of the Skin, etc., the sum total is simply enormous. And all this is done in a Hospital built before these numerous clinics were even thought of, and in quarters lamentably deficient in space, air and light.