

as I so humbly present, are what we of the country and of the walled city so earnestly need. Although "each Life is an existence viewing itself too much through a single medium," it is well for us to observe that medicine is a very jealous mistress, and the most difficult of all arts to acquire. and at such annual gatherings of this association, is it not but our rights to make confession by naming our sins of omission and commission. To review the past, consider our present interests, and to make attempts to look into the glorious future, for Cicero says that questions of any importance have the past, the present, and the future to consider (*tria esse omnino genera quae in disceptationem cadere possint; quid fiat, jactum, futurumve sit.*)

The average longevity of members of our profession is stated to be fifty-six years, if so, the average working period cannot much exceed thirty years, and we will assign the first ten years to that period in which a young doctor becomes established in practice, and if before the closing of this the first decade—this bread and butter period as Sir Andrew Clarke calls it—he has married brain and wealth, his future will have less clouds, for the richest doctors with whom I am acquainted are those who, like the penniless scions of nobility, believe that wealth is but a fair gift in exchange for a title in the family and act according to such beliefs.

The country doctor is of essential interest in any community—in fact, is he not a necessity and so regarded? The establishment of the town-pump is equally so regarded, which is maintained and kept in order and no one appears willing or able to bear expenses in the repairs thereof. His practice is, of course, at times for the money consideration, and his consideration is (if he considers) that if the liveryman had made equal trips to his and been paid the usual livery rates, he would have been better off than he as regards shekels of gold and of silver. He eateth side pork with those who eat side pork, and drinketh milk with those who drink milk. At times he drinketh port or sherry with those who drink some variety of chosen border blends of mountain dew, whose merits he announces with no sour disdain when away from home; his breath is that of new mown hay, or that of frankincense and myrrh. His experience during this first decade is such that he estimates it as passing the understanding of men, in payment for which he is paid principally in hay, oats and other products of the farm, apparently satisfied is he if he can meet his payments for drugs and medicines, and be recognized as popular; unfortunate, however, is he if ambition should tempt him to erect too costly a residence, such a step he, like others in many similar cases will have reason to regret.