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THE PROFESSION, THE PUBLIC AND THE CODE.

AN ADDRESS DELIVERED BY INVITATION BEFORE THE THIRD
GENERAL MEETING OF THE PAN-AMERICAN MEDICAL
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(*Stenographic Abstract.*)

Sir Astley Cooper, one of the greatest surgeons and most accomplished gentlemen of the last generation, was in the habit of addressing every candidate for membership of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, of which he was president, somewhat in the following words: "Gentlemen, you are about to enter on a noble and difficult profession; your success in it depends on three things: first, on a good and thorough knowledge of your profession; second, on an industrious discharge of its duties, and third on the preservation of your moral character. Without the first—knowledge—no one can wish you to succeed; without the second—industry—you cannot succeed; and without the third, even if you do succeed, success can bring you no happiness." Those words might form a very adequate summary text for guidance of the conduct of all medical men. And it might conceivably be asked whether there is any necessity for a more detailed and elaborate code. Indeed, it practically has been asked, and there are