

ness of purpose to do his duty in whatever he undertakes, undeterred by the obstacles which may obstruct his way, and which often appear to be insurmountable until they encounter and go down before a resolute and unyielding will. The world is apt to measure a man's abilities by his successes, and although the rule by which it judges cannot be admitted as an infallible one, there are solid grounds on which this worldly decision rests. To be fortunate, as the term goes, is often the result simply of a knowledge of all the means necessary to attain to a certain object, and the prosecution of these with thorough devotedness. Cardinal Richelieu was wont to observe, that "unfortunate" and "imprudent" were two words for the same thing; and we may reasonably infer, therefore, that this distinguished and keen observer of human nature considered good fortune to be the result of prudent management; in other words, that success is the indication not only of the man's abilities but also of his command over and proper regulation and direction of these abilities.

In the profession of medicine, gentlemen, to become a successful healer of the sick, which should be the great and dominant desire of each one of you, there can be no trifling with duty. You have not attained the position in which you stand to-day without having learned the important fact, that there is no easy road to learning. The knowledge, scientific and practical, which you evinced during your recent examinations, and which has been the warrant of this University in conferring upon you the degree of Doctor in Medicine and Master of Surgery, has not come to you intuitively. It has been acquired by much hard work, by unremitting devotion to your studies, and the frequent practice of self-denial. Now, the same hard work, the same unremitting devotion to study, and the same practise of self-denial, will be as imperatively demanded when you go forth into the world and assume the responsibilities of practitioners of medicine. Without them you can never be *thorough*; and thoroughness is certainly of the highest importance in a profession, the great mission of which is to conserve human life.

Thirdly:—That it requires its members to manifest the purest and most unselfish heroism. Men have been long accustomed to associate all ideas of heroism with exhibitions of mere animal courage. To plunge recklessly into the *mêlée* of deadly strife, and, amid the maddening excitements of roar of cannon, charge of cavalry, shouts of contention, and groans of the dying, to perform prodigies of valour by freely destroying human life, is to manifest qualities which nations and individuals delight to honour in their possessor. Thanks from the associated wisdom of a grateful nation, the highest titles and positions in the land, public ovations and a name in history, have been always freely awarded to the