

clinically studying nervous diseases, or the day will surely come when, if you do so, you will deeply regret it; and if the study of the nervous diseases is important, no less so is the therapeutical study of the medicine by which you expect to treat its diseases successfully. You must not only know the physiology of animal matter, but the physiology of vegetable and mineral matter. Then when you have diagnosed pathological defect in any part of the nervous system, you will be the better prepared to prescribe the most suitable medicine to restore the pathological organ to its physiological state of existence.

Gentlemen, you will, I regret to say, meet many men in the medical profession, as well as outside of it, who, ignorant of physical science themselves, will sneer at it, and try to turn you from the study of it, by speaking loudly about learning something practical, meaning thereby empirical treatment of disease. But if you would be scientific mediciners, you must be physicists, you must be men to study the physiology of matter in all and every degree of its stages, mineral, vegetable and animal, and then will you be truly scientific medical men. Then may we look forward, hopefully, for the time when the medical profession will be a truly scientific one, because it will be based upon physical science or natural experimental philosophy. And to the man of law, I would, with the highest respect, say, "Don't reject physical science, because it teaches you that every man is intellectually and morally what he is, in virtue of the functions of his physical or structural organization, but rather study it carefully, that you may be the better able to comprehend the causes of all the different effects that come under your observation in this world of uncivilized barbarians not governed by the natural law of the survival of the fittest, but the survival of those who know no law but that might is right, who are incapable of settling a constitutional question except by leaving the question to be settled by the arbitrament of the sword."