

It may be thought that the range of study, now suggested, is too extensive for the generality of medical students; but, for my part, if circumstances permitted, I would feel disposed to add to it the study of Logic and Metaphysics; the exercises in composition, usually combined with the instructions on these sciences, are most valuable in the formation of habits of thought, as well as in the acquirement of power and facility of expression. I am convinced that a youth thus prepared, with the advantage of a large amount of available knowledge, will commence the study of medicine with the probability of much greater ultimate success than he who has not had such a thorough preliminary training.

Gentlemen Graduates, you are now about to leave us, having creditably passed through your final examinations and obtained the honors of this University. Your minds are now stored with that frame-work of knowledge upon which experience can alone afterwards be securely based; and as most of you will at once commence practice, you will shortly be called upon to bring your acquirements to bear upon matters of practical utility, to apply to the principles of your profession, which have been taught you in the lecture-room, the practical test of bedside experience. You are now about to study the book of nature—see that you become her faithful interpreters; her lessons are worthy of implicit belief, and the statements of lecturers and writers frequently require to be corrected by them. The zeal and intelligence which many of you have displayed during the time you have been with us, afford, unquestionably, the best promise that can be given of future eminence and success; but, in order that this hope may be realized, let me caution you not to give up study. Honorable distinction in the practice of medicine is only to be attained by keeping pace with its progress. At the present day, when science in every department is making such rapid advances, when education is becoming diffused so generally, the medical man cannot stand still, but must exert himself to maintain the exalted character of his profession; and, I say it with pleasure, that medicine has not been stationary,—she has not been behind others in the march of improvement, but has kept pace in advancement with her sister sciences; and her literature is daily adding new and important facts to our present store. Do not think, then, gentlemen, that such of you as relax in your efforts will meet with future encouragement: it is only by industry and perseverance that you can expect to obtain, in after life, respect and reputation as scientific practitioners.

But, gentlemen, superior attainments, without upright principles, will never secure success. In order to have a fair prospect of being esteemed