

of this profession—honourable associates in its distinguished brotherhood ; endeavour as far as you are able to exalt its reputation and maintain its usefulness, so that in your hand Mr. Carlyle's encomium may be applicable, "Blessed art of healing, once again divine"—

Cherishing this respect for the medical art, you will also respect all its honorable members ; you will not resort to any mean or unworthy methods to build up a reputation at the expense of a rival ; you will refuse to criticise the practise of a colleague behind his back, should his patients consult you. While honestly stating and defending your own views, you must respect the opinions of the brother who may differ from you, remembering that very frequently sufficient obscurity surrounds a subject to allow of differences of opinion between well informed men. Your honorable rivalry must not be debased by charlatanism or chicanery.

There are two or three evils now threatening the dignity and morality of the profession against which I would warn you. That of acting as a canvasser—*touter* is an expressive if barbarous word—for Life Assurance societies. The relation of the medical officer to a Life Assurance Co., is that purely of a scientific witness, and he should not debase his profession by becoming the special pleader for a particular company, more especially since it apparently is not thought disreputable by the managers of too many of these institutions to misrepresent their actual position to the public.

Beware of becoming the paid advocate in Courts of Law, and distorting scientific evidence in favour of the side with which you have allied yourself. Self-interest is a very disturbing medium, through which to examine difficult or nice questions.

Do not attempt to destroy the reputation of a colleague under cover of a third party. Within the past year, four suits for mal practice have been instituted in the Dominion, and as far as I can judge, the sole foundation for them has been the ignorance or malice of rivals ; such conduct is unjust, mean and despicable.

But finally do not practice medicine merely or chiefly for the sake of making money, but for its own sake. It is full of the most interesting analogies, facts and principles. There is scarcely any fact in physical science that does not in some way bear upon it ; it sheds light upon many important problems in Government, education, jurisprudence and social economy ; it takes cognizance of the wonderful processes observed in all organised beings—development, nutrition, growth, decay and reproduction ; it establishes the harmony existing between the moral teachings of the bible and the operations of natural law ; it cultivates the better feelings of our nature, enlarges our human sympathies, nurtures self denial.