

be guarded. Excepting in the case of pronounced and advanced organic disease, never give your patients up. In the case of children this advice is especially good, because their powers of endurance and recuperation are sometimes marvellous. We too often give the charlatan a golden opportunity, by allowing him to step in and get for his absurd nostrums the credit for the cure which Nature herself had unquestionably effected. On the other hand, I would not have you wilfully deceive people. If, after fortifying your opinion by consultation with a *confrère* (and this you should always do when in doubt), you have serious misapprehensions regarding the immediate ultimate result of a case, do not hesitate to state your fears to the friends, and if necessary to the patient himself. This, however, should not be done in a brusque, unfeeling manner, but in a kindly, confiding and hopeful way. Thus, in the case of those having worldly affairs to arrange, you will often do immense service by your frank and manly behaviour, and perhaps save the survivors from the annoyance of years of litigation.

In your intercourse with your patients generally, be gentle and forbearing. To the poor, especially, be generous of your professional services and kindly in your manner. The rich man is often ungrateful and exacting, and thinks that with his gold alone he can recompense you for the days and weeks of anxious care and thought bestowed upon him. The poor man has nothing to offer but his heartfelt thanks and earnest prayers for your welfare. It is true the latter will not enrich you, but the consciousness of having done good without hope of reward should bring pleasurable feelings to the bosom of every right-thinking man. Besides, your experience will be enlarged and your prospects, in many ways, advanced by such disinterested and charitable conduct.

I cannot impress upon you too strongly the necessity for cultivating the good will and esteem of your fellow-practitioners, especially those who labour in the same field with you. Some of you, doubtless, will be going forth now in search of suitable localities in which to begin work. To you I would say—Do not enter the town or village of your choice with the demeanour