

to receive the devotion of your life. You are not indeed mistaken; the profession of medicine affords to its votaries—those at any rate who are true and faithful to her teachings—a sure reward for all the toil and trouble they may take to enquire into her mysteries. It is in its essence a combination of science and of art. The science, like all science, is illimitable, and lays under contribution all true knowledge in whatever department it may have come to light. The art is continuously progressive, always improving and endeavouring to furnish the means of keeping pace with the scientific requirements. Here then, surely is a field large enough to satisfy the most ambitious for the employment of his talents and the occupation of his time. And then consider the subject matter. What is it that thus engages the attention of so many master-minds of every community who are always found enrolled within our ranks? Nothing less than the study of man himself—man in all his relations, social, moral and intellectual—as well as purely physical. It is the study of the development of that noblest work of God—who was actually made in the image of his Creator—of his development traced from the microscopic maternal ovum to the perfect creature in all his pride of physical perfection and towering mental superiority. It is the study of the beauty, uniformity, ingenuity, and marvellous applicability to intelligent purpose of every separate portion of his wonderful frame. It is the minute examination by cunning mechanical contrivances into the very minutest recesses of every atom of every structure of which these parts are composed. The study of the chemical composition of all these varied tissues and fluids, the study of the changes taking place in this complex body as long as what we call life endures—the laws which govern changes and control function, and ultimate in causing death; and after death the study of the appearances caused by prematurely perverted vital laws or found as a result of the great and universal law of finality. This constitutes the study of medicine proper, based upon a due understanding of anatomy, physiology and chemistry. Did the world so exist that simply men and women were born, lived and died with constitutions perfect and minds and bodies obeying always the healthy laws