

Doctor should be thoroughly acquainted with all that Science at present knows on these subjects. How else can he fulfil his noblest trust—the guardianship of individual and public health? For a specialist with a narrowed range of duties such knowledge may, perhaps, be of less importance; but for the family physician, the trusted friend and counsellor year after year—for the public-spirited physician who would give to his wisdom and experience the largest usefulness, these studies are indispensable, and his initiation, his first impulse and interest in this knowledge, should surely be given by his college.

There is one branch of this subject which I think must weigh heavily on the hearts of women physicians, and which will, I hope, through them, engage the attention of every thoughtful woman in our land—I refer to the frightful mortality of young children. Children are born to live, not die. There is a wonderful force of tenacious vitality in all growing organizations—far more proportionate vitality than in the old or even the adult; yet, notwithstanding this beneficent provision of nature, we destroy our young children nearly five times as fast as the other members of our social body. If every woman in our city could hear the daily moan of these dying infants, could feel that every day multitudes of bereaved mothers were weeping over untimely graves, and that her own skirts were not clear of this shedding of innocent blood, we should see an army of earnest co-workers eager to save this multitude of helpless children.