

countries. In like manner you should visit Europe, to see the practice of its large medical institutions and hear the teaching of those renowned men of Britain, France, and Germany, who have so largely contributed towards the present condition of our profession. It is needless to point out the advantages of such a course, as they are universally acknowledged.

Another duty you owe to yourselves is to keep pace with the rapid progress which rational medicine is making in our time. The man who neglects this will soon find himself outstripped by his cotemporaries and deservedly so. By means of periodicals and new publications, you should keep yourselves well informed of all that is going on in the medical world. For although you have ceased to be pupils you must still continue to be students—indeed your whole life must be one of study, observation and reflection.

There is another rule of conduct to which I desire to refer. Every medical man has often his patience sorely tried by being obliged to listen to long, tedious, and irrelevant histories of the maladies of valetudinarians and of persons labouring under diseases acutely painful or hopelessly incurable. With all such be gentle and forbearing. Remember the intimate relation existing between the physical and mental, and that derangements and diseases of the former often seriously affect the latter. Harsh and overbearing conduct towards invalids is not suitable to the present state of society. It never did any good and therefore serves no end either as regards the patient or physician.

For success in practice depend upon your own merits and the closest attention to business. Whatever your struggles may be, eschew all questionable or charlatanical devices for improving your circumstances by departing from the path of rectitude.

Towards the public your duties are of a special and general character. Prominent among the former is prompt attention to calls for your professional services, and when you have taken a case in hand do your utmost to save life and relieve suffering. In dangerous cases, when you have any doubt as to the correctness of the practice to be followed, hesitate not to call in the assistance of an older and more experienced practitioner.

To the poor be generous of your professional services and kindly in your manner. Although you receive no remuneration from them, your experience will be enlarged and your prospects in many ways advanced by such disinterested and humane conduct.

Let me also remind you of your obligation to be discreetly reticent in all matters coming to your knowledge as professional men.