

locate, if you are youthful, you will encounter difficulties that older physicians do not. "He looks too young, he lacks experience, etc." are among the often heard expressions. However, I think the great prejudice to young practitioners is, to a very large extent, dying out. Show the world that you deserve to succeed and success will surely come.

If you settle in a town or city the location and appearance of your office will have a great deal to do with your progress. Select one, if possible, in a good neighborhood, as near as may be to one or more of the main thoroughfares. Remember, in making your selection, that a physician cannot rely on his near neighbors for patronage. People in your immediate neighborhood may never employ you, while those far away may never have anyone else.

Avoid frequent removals and do not shift or change from one place to another, unless it is clearly to better yourself. Reputation is a thing that grows slowly, and every distant removal imperils one's practice, necessitating new labor, and sometimes compels commencing of life over again.

If possible have a good, light, airy, comfortable and accessible office, one that is not used for a family parlor or any accessory purpose. Exercise care in its arrangement: give it a pleasant exterior; make it look fresh, neat and clean outside and snug, bright and cosy inside, thus showing that its occupant is possessed of good taste and gentility as well as learning and skill; and, at the same time, that it is neither a lawyer's consulting room, nor a clergyman's sanctum, nor an instrument-maker's shop, nor a smoking club's headquarters, nor a loafing room for the unemployed, nor a social meeting place of any kind, but the office of a live, earnest-working, scientific physician who has a library and takes the journals. Take care, however, to avoid running into a quackish display of instruments and tools, and keep from sight such inappropriate or even repulsive objects as catheters, syringes, obstetric forceps, splints, trusses, amputating knives, skeletons, grinning skulls, tumors, etc.

It is not unprofessional, however, to have about you in your office your microscope, stethoscope, spirit lamp, test tubes, re-agents for testing urine, and other aids to precision in diagnosis, or to hang up your diplomas or portraits of eminent professional friends or medical celebrities.

The consulting room should be of moderate dimensions, small rather than large; the walls and floors well and tastefully covered, articles of furniture few in number but good, and to include a small bookcase, a well designed writing table and chairs to correspond.

Still more important to success will be the nature of the connections you form in your early career, for by such is a young medical practitioner rightly and keenly judged. Let your acquaintance, therefore, be limited, as far as possible, to legitimate professional brethren and people of genuine worth. Be careful to avoid associating with those who labor under a merited stigma or are notable for immoral character, or whose hopes and ambitions have been blighted by their own misconduct. It is scarcely necessary to say, avoid the hotel bar, smoking, billiard and gambling room.