

---

6. ENCOURAGEMENT OF PATIENTS.

The physician should be a minister of hope and comfort to the sick, since life may be lengthened or shortened not only by the acts, but by the words or manner of the physician, whose solemn duty it is to avoid all utterances and actions having a tendency to discourage and depress the patient.

7. INCURABLE CASES NOT TO BE NEGLECTED.

The physician ought not to abandon a patient because the case is deemed incurable ; for his continued attendance may be highly useful to the patient and comforting to the relations around him, even in the last period of a fatal malady, by alleviating pain and other symptoms, and by soothing mental anguish. To decline attendance, under such circumstances, would be sacrificing to fanciful delicacy and mistaken liberality, that moral duty which is independent of and superior to all pecuniary conditions.

8. JUDICIOUS COUNSEL TO PATIENTS.

The opportunity which a physician has of promoting and strengthening the good resolutions of patients suffering under the consequences of evil conduct ought never to be neglected. Good counsels, or even remonstrances, will give satisfaction, not offence, if they be tactfully proffered and evince a genuine love of virtue, accompanied by a sincere interest in the welfare of the person to whom they are addressed.