

cine instigated by a profound liking for the subject—almost if not quite by instinct—and that being so, to the true medical man the fact that his profession will assure him a fair competency and independent position is and must be a secondary matter.

No profession, as you know full well, makes greater calls upon its followers than that of medicine. In season and out of season you are liable to be called upon—or more truly every hour of the twenty-four from year end to year end is the doctor's season. Not only is your time not your own, but each case that presents itself demands honest thought and the fullest endeavour on your part to put forth all that you possess, irrespective of what the monetary result is to be. Love for the work is and must be first. This may be an instinct wholly unassociated at first with any idea of doing good, but the very liking and desire to engage in the work must lead you to seek every opportunity of practice and so, willingly or unwillingly, the good is done.

Of old it was said that where there are three medical men there are two atheists. Most assuredly this is not so. It is only true that the habit of independent thought and of striving to determine the why and wherefore of things, which is second nature to the physician, is not in accordance with the strictest theology, and tends often towards heterodoxy. Nevertheless, no profession demands from its followers the more constant exercise of practical Christianity. You have entered into a profession of which it is the noble tradition dating back centuries to the school of Salerno, and yet earlier, that the call of the afflicted and needy is to be attended to, and attended to with no second thought. To this extent the exercise of your profession is pure religion. It rests with you to preserve it undefiled. This is the *religio medici*, whatever else be added thereunto by the individual. The medical life is the practical exercise of this religion. If your main thought in looking to the future is that medicine will bring you money and