

of the past ; for others its associations seem so fresh as to blend with the busy throng of current events ; to a smaller number it wears the charm of a new and not unpleasant experience. Happy are they who can look back to this, the very threshold of their career, without regret, and I will take upon myself to tell you who they are. They are the men who have started with a firm resolve to uphold the honour and good name of the profession whose ranks they have joined, and have never swerved from their purpose. They are the men who have had the strength to practice self-denial in their youth, and devote all their time and all their energies to earnest work. These are the sure foundations upon which success in life must be built. To the lack of such foundations we may trace the shipwrecks on the sands of time that are strewn on every side. Which of us is there, indeed, who cannot recall instances of blighted prospects and wasted lives in men whose early days gave promise of a prosperous and honourable future. And if we look for the causes of the disaster, we shall find they can be traced to a non-observance of the golden rule just mentioned as the secret of success.

To the young man just entering upon his course of medical studies, full of life and vigor and sanguine hopes, four years may seem a long time in which to accomplish the purpose he has in view. Some of his older schoolmates, no more intelligent than himself, have perhaps recently passed through the ordeal and, now exulting in the possession of a handle to their names, are objects of awe and veneration to their quondam associates. Be not thus deceived : the time is all too short for the work in hand. Twelve months later the most sanguine among you will freely admit I am not exaggerating when I say that if the time were twice as long there would still remain much more to learn than was ever dreamt of in your philosophy. How bitter then will be the regret if that year is wasted in idleness or pleasure taking. If any of you think to have an easy time for the first year or two, my advice would be either to abandon the fond illusion or to seek some easier route to fame and fortune. Remember always there are a dozen Professors to confront you,