

this kind of meretricious worth, so easily assumed, and which at one time found so many imitators—this will not do. You will often be told that doctors are unsympathetic and hard-hearted. This I need hardly say to *you* is a vulgar error. It is a matter which is often made the subject of a jest by better educated persons, but that the idea should be accepted as a reality by any one with a knowledge of the world I do not believe. It is true that from the very nature of our calling, we are constantly brought into contact with all the protean forms of human suffering and misery, and at the same time, since we are then always called upon to act, it is absolutely necessary to maintain such calmness and composure as may inspire confidence in our patients. But in spite of this, there are a thousand other ways in which the true sympathy of the medical attendant may be evinced, and I believe that there is no calling in which real sympathy and human interest calls forth such a responsive gratitude as in our own. Be sure, then, to cultivate a demeanour towards all your patients—rich and poor alike—which shall not be incongruous with that truly high and noble calling which you have this day embraced. Try to imitate the Great Physician who “went about doing good,” and to observe in all your relations to your fellow men those great rules of morality laid down by the same Divine authority. Be patient, kind, thoughtful and considerate; place always your patient’s welfare before your own interest, or comfort, or convenience. Our very self-interest, if no higher motive, should prompt to similar consideration for the feelings of others. Nothing conduces more to worldly success, there is no quality the importance of which is more real, yet which is so underrated at this day by the young, as *courtesy*, which includes all those delicate attentions, those nameless tendernesses of thought and manner which make the true gentleman. “Prepare yourselves for the world” said Lord Chesterfield, “as the athlete used to do for their exercises; oil your mind and your manners, to give them the necessary suppleness and flexibility, strength alone will not do.”