

that hope unfulfilled as far as I am concerned, for it was my misfortune to choose a subject before I had the pleasure of hearing that admirable address.

But although I cannot claim that my paper is strictly scientific, I hope it will be of such practical value as to provide for its lack of technicality.

Of course it goes without saying that every student trained here is fully alive to the importance of doing absolutely good work; no man can in the end expect to be successful who does not keep constantly before him the highest ideal of his profession; for, as Emerson says, "Our own safety lies in having lofty ideals, and in constant labor to secure their realization."

You may reply to this, "We do not want to labor for the realization of ideals, but for hard cash." I venture to think, if one works in this sordid spirit, the capacity for doing the best becomes atrophied, and eventually one loses even one's mess of pottage, for which has been bartered the standard of right.

Where would have been any chance of earning money in our profession to-day, had it not been for those noble men, who in former days worshipped ideals and freely gave their lives for Science?

I would not weary you, but I think, considering how absolutely our patients are in our hands, we ought to consider well our responsibility, not only to them, but to the best traditions of our profession. It lies with us, who are now students, whether in the next generation dentistry ranks equally with medicine, as a profession for gentlemen, or sinks to the level of a trade only to be practised by empirics and mountebanks. Personally, I am convinced—"how far high failure overleaps the bounds of low successes," and I hope however great my anxiety to make money, I shall never forget what I owe to myself as a gentleman and a member of the dental profession. But I am not here to-night to "magnify my office," but to discuss the management of patients.

Generally speaking, it is just as well to remember that, having finished the "demonstration" stage, we have also finished working on blocks of ivory, and when upstairs are working on human beings with tissues as sensitive, if sometimes not quite so clean, as our own.

If we lose sight of this when dealing with hospital patients, we shall find the Nemesis come home when we start practice for ourselves. A hospital patient has no choice but to grin and bear it, but a private patient finds a hundred doors eagerly opened to receive him, as Sairey Gamp said, "with love and tenderness."

But do not make the fatal mistake that gentleness, like a coat, can be put on and off as occasion requires. It should be the natural attribute of a man in our profession; when it is only veneer laid on for the sake of a fee, the inevitable result must be nervousness, awkwardness and bad work.

It is of infinite value to a dentist to have quick perceptions and