

profession. And I can assure you, that upon the whole, you are coming into very good company. If in anything I have said this evening I have seemed to speak lightly of the medical profession or its adjuncts, I hope it will not be construed as more than the ordinary banter in which we boys sometimes indulge when we get off in a quiet corner by ourselves.

I have much faith in the advice of that anonymous writer who said :—

“Oh, never wear a brow of care, or frown with rueful gravity,

For wit's the child of wisdom, and good humor is the twin.

No need to play the Pharisee, or groan at man's depravity ;

Let one man be a good man, and let all be fair within. Speak sober truths with smiling lips ; the bitter wrap in sweetness,

Sound sense in seeming nonsense, as the grain is hid in chaff.

And fear not that the lesson e'er may seem to lack completeness,

A man may say a wise thing, though he say it with a laugh.”

It is true that you are entering, nay, in your medical studies you have already entered, a world of labor, and pain, and sorrow. You will see how the destruction of the poor is their poverty, and how the sins of the fathers are visited upon the children; how neither culture, nor wealth, nor power, can forever put off the evil day; and how there is, at last, one event to all the sons of men.

You must be prepared to deal with anxiety, fear, grief, and despair, as well as fever and physical pain; you are to be not only physician, but friend, confessor, guide, and judge, and you cannot avoid these responsibilities if you would, nor should you if you could.

Nevertheless, I can assure that you are also entering a beautiful world, where the very shadows prove that plenty of sunshine exists, a world of brave men and good women, whose best and noblest characteristics are brought out most clearly and vividly in such scenes as those in which you will be called to act. But remember, that as a rule, you will find only what you seek and believe in. Remember, also, that this knowledge which you have acquired, and are yet to acquire, is entrusted to you as a power,

a power none the less real, and involving no less responsibility because it is accompanied by no special outward insignia of authority or rank.

By the help of this knowledge you are to get wisdom—that wisdom which always lingers, and sometimes comes too late; that wisdom of which it is written that for all the children of men “length of days are in her right hand, and in her left hand riches and honor.”

THE NEW YORK STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY, when it enacted its little law permitting consultations with all legally qualified practitioners, viz. : homœopaths, eclectics, and the horde of irregular practitioners, had but eighty members present; and there was of these a good minority (30) opposed to such action. There are over 4,500 qualified regular practitioners in this State. It remains to be seen, whether a small collection of fifty doctors are to so override the views and defy the convictions and customs of this great medical army, as to bring all reputable practitioners of the State into absolute collision with the American Medical Association; and to place them in opposition to the recognized views and respected customs of the 60,000 reputable physicians of this country. It is certain that 59,950 physicians of the United States are justly opposed to any such consultations; wherein there can not be either honourable agreement or rational compromise. And if a small majority of a small body of eighty men are to control and defy the impregnable sentiment of over 59,000 physicians, the day of absolute absurdity and medical chaos has fully and fatally dawned. The American Medical Association will, of course, justly repudiate the New York Medical Society, and all who yield an allegiance to its recent inexcusable legislation. And the best medical men everywhere, will say Amen, and Amen.—*American Medical Weekly.*

NEW SOURCE OF VACCINE VIRUS.—A new source of vaccine virus has recently been discovered in France, according to the *Progrès Médical*. A cow was recently discovered at Eusyres, in the vicinity of Bordeaux, affected with the vaccine disease spontaneously devel-