

steadily forward for new light, beware of the false ones, for the true light will appear, and you will not be surprised because you have been looking for it all the years; so shall you grow and learn to your latest day, and you shall escape mental fossilization. This deplorable fate of so many physicians comes of a fixed notion that most of the knowable is known, and that science will remain as it was. But whose postulates that many things are yet to be discovered, and that some of his most precious theories may one day have to be given up or recast, and that it is a disgrace to stand still—that man will keep his heart warm and his interest close to the moving column. He can never become a mental fossil; and though living unto age he shall die young.

The medical profession must progress and grow in knowledge, and the new knowledge must make for higher usefulness. But we are in danger, and the more volatile of us in most danger, from this very fact. We are liable if not likely to be side-tracked in a pursuit of one idea, and to be governed by it, and so lose our sense of proportion; to become seized with a fad and to try to square the world with it. The rapid progress of our science and art during the past few years has increased this danger, and we have had plentiful examples of medical men being dominated by a single thought, and losing all judicial judgment. Some of the more enthusiastic of them have had a new fad each decade for forty years. Hardly one of them has attained to great success in any way, unless the occasional riding into pecuniary fortune, possibly in the saddle of their fads, may be called success.

No professional man has great success merely because he makes money. Success requires also usefulness to the public, loyalty to the truth, the approval of the great body of his associates, and a clear conscience of his own. Thorough sanity and moderation in all our judgments is, therefore, the only safe ideal, and there is more need now than ever before for this standard in the medical profession. To "prove all things; hold fast to that which is good," has not ceased to be wisdom. We can be progressive and be sensible also.

We can be moderate and judicial, refuse to be stampeded either for or against a new doctrine, and yet put every new truth to its best use. We have no warrant, simply because we have discovered a new fact, to throw our hats into the air and forget that this fact has important relations with a hundred old truths that cannot be abandoned, and we will show our wisdom by searching for those relations. If complete salvation ever comes