

the withered fruit drops early from its stem and sinks forgotten into the abyss of eternity. This is the time when, grown restive of long delay, some may be tempted by the hope of speedy reward to actions which pave the way to ruin and disgrace. Would any of you obtain the love and respect of your fellow-men? Believe me, there is but one sure way to attain your object, and that is to remain steadfast in the good resolves you all will make at the outset of your career. Be not faint or weary in well-doing. Above all, do not imagine that the time and attention you bestow upon the poor and needy who come to you for relief is labor and time thrown away. It is bread cast upon the waters which will surely return to you after many days. In every occupation in life all men should study attentively the sayings and doings of illustrious ones who have trodden the same paths before. For this reason I have looked up the records of some great names in British medicine, men with whose names and great deeds you are all more or less familiar, and if you will kindly bear with me for a short time I will endeavor to give you a few brief results of my researches in this direction. Aikin, in his *Biographical Memoirs of Medicine in Great Britain*, speaking of Harvey, says: "The private character of this great man appears to have been in every respect worthy of his public reputation. Cheerful, candid and upright, he was not the prey of any mean or ungente passion. He was as little disposed by nature to detract from the merits of others or make an ostentatious display of his own as necessitated to use such methods for advancing his fame. The many antagonists whom his renown and the novelty of his opinions excited were, in general, treated by him with modest and temperate language, frequently very different from their own; and while he refuted their arguments he decorated them with all due praises. He lived on terms of perfect harmony and friendship with his brethren of the profession, and seems to have been very little ambitious of engrossing a disproportionate share of medical practice. To complete his character he did not want in that polish and courtly address which are necessary to the scholar who would also appear as a gentleman." Of Thomas Sydenham it has been said: "What Harvey and Newton did for the sciences