

pronounced and entertained against us by some who have denounced our profession as leading us to deny the existence of a Supreme Being, and charging us with universal scepticism. If such an opinion were correct and just, it would pass a sentence of condemnation on all our proceedings and pages, and stamp a criminality on our very foreheads. But the records of Medical history, as well as the living examples of the present day, show us that all who have ever attained the rank of eminent men have been equally conspicuous for their moral worth, as for their professional productions in literature. This at once overthrows any argument or reflection which would tend to clothe us with infamy and disgrace. How is it possible that the study of anatomy and medicine, if properly cultivated, can plunge us into such a dangerous error? Can the contemplation of man, the noblest monument of creative power, lead us to doubt the existence of an Omnipotent Being? Can the knowledge of that inimitable mechanism by which every part is fitted for its office; of that structure which not only enables us to feel and move, but is the temporary abode of our intellectual faculties; of those laws by which life itself is carried on, or by their subversion extinguished; can the knowledge of these, I ask, convert us into into infidels? Most assuredly not. I may here advert to Galen, a celebrated physician who lived in the reign of the Emperor Adrian. He studied anatomy at Alexandria, during which period and whilst engaged in dissecting human bodies (at the time a Pagan,) he became converted to Christianity, and on contemplating the order, structure and uses of the different parts of the system exclaimed "herein I acknowledge and praise our Creator, that He has been pleased to adorn His works beyond the power of art." By viewing the human body from its earliest formation, and watching it as it advances in growth, we are presented with a beautiful illustration of the wise and wonderful workmanship of Omnipotence, and enables us to trace the hand of unerring wisdom upon such firm ground as to render doubt absurd and atheism ridiculous.

Patience is a blessing to any man but more particularly so to the medical man, and it is a lesson that will have to be frequently studied. So long as human nature remains what it is, and so long as envy, hatred, malice and uncharitableness exist in the world, so long will there arise many things to try the temper. Under these diversified circumstances, the moral requisite most necessary to keep in mind, is a strict observance of the golden rule of practice "mens conscia recti," the consciousness of rectitude, and also "As you would that men should

do to you, do ye also to them likewise." This is a grand and sure guide, whether in relation to our professional brethren, to patients, or the every day concerns of life. This is the powerful and mind searching corrective and moral test, which makes that innate and predominate love of self the measure of love we should bear to our neighbours. From this virtuous principle will flow that kindness of manner, that benevolence of purpose which warms the heart of the poor sinking patient and raises his drooping spirits; whilst it with holds every thought, word or act, that might possibly tend to injure, in the remotest degree, our professional brethren. The exercise of this christian virtue, will shed a lustre around those who practice it, and will bring the most consoling feelings, under the most trying circumstances. It is the fruit of energy, patience and perseverance—attributes essential in the discharge of our professional duties, both to our brethren and to society.

In parting with our late fellow students, who are still upon the road so lately travelled by ourselves, I think I may offer a few suggestions for their guidance without being charged with self-sufficiency.

Firstly, I would remark, that all professions are arduous when duly attended to, the medical profession pre-eminently so, both in its acquisition and practice. It is with reluctance that I impress upon the student's mind, that the road to the temple of medicine is a series of rough and rugged ascents, truly an uphill course beset with stumbling blocks and mischances, but by the early cultivation of habits of order, method, accuracy, and dispatch, coupled with sobriety, perseverance and good manners, every difficulty may not only be overcome, but honorable distinction attained. The youth brought up in habits of industry, obedience and under parental control, gains an early triumph over idleness, inebriation and sensuality, and forms a character for life which contributes most powerfully towards future success.

Let me assure you that habits of diligence and attention, when once acquired, are easier and far more pleasant than superficial and negligent observation, so that the whole attainment, which once appeared so irksome and formidable, will become natural, easy, pleasant and every way to be preferred. In short, he who will persevere with patient steps to tread the path of knowledge will find the difficulties diminish as he advances; only let him go on as he began, and if there be no defect of intellectual capacity, if he is sober, courteous in his behavior, free from frivolity and immorality, he is not only certain of