

ing circumstances. Shrink not from the spectres this may call up of toil and trouble and uneasiness,—but persevere. “*Perge et prospera.*” The requirements of skill are the essentials of correct judgment. In its exercise, celerity will increase with every trial, and time will bring experience, One is the secret of the other, experience of celerity. As patient after patient troops before a skilled practitioner, and in a few minutes, it may be in the twinkling of an eye, he can sometimes tell the disease of each, and has the remedy on the tip of his tongue;—imagine not that this is merely guess work, or the play of the empiric, or a sleight of magic, much less intuition. Well earned experience has won the victory of this celerity and resolved the work of hours into the work of seconds.

Furthermore, as you labour, think not all around is beaten ground. If, as was said, Medicine be progressive, it must be incomplete. Though there is much ascertained—yet to the paths over which you may walk, there are limits. Much you can observe, comprehend and define; much you can infer, predict and be sure of;—but there is also beyond, a wilderness that waits to be cleared and made to blossom. Would you contribute to lend a helping hand to aid in achieving so desirable an object as this, as the perfection of our science;—the distinction is open to you, in common with others, and if the task be addressed with untiring energy and indomitable perseverance, you will at least be worthy to emulate the fame your predecessors have attained in their career, and to be gathered in the role of those who have enlarged the boundaries of Medicine, or reclaimed its unexplored wilderness of hidden truth.

In thus seeking to be the “wise Physician skilled to heal,” and to be “more than armies to the public weal,” neither refrain to cultivate whatever else may ennoble humanity, nor neglect the things needful to elevate refined taste,—to inform aright the mind,—and to sublime the heart’s affections. The wisest, the most skilful of our Profession, are likewise examples of men of general information, deep learning, and high accomplishments. To the peculiar nature of a Physician’s life these are most agreeable. Introduced into the lordly mansion as well as the humblest hut,—holding intercourse with very gifted minds, reaching the ear of the most polished,—side by side with some whose talk is of the most lofty themes,—his patient, it may be, a scholar, a statesman, or a poet—thus favourably circumstanced in his round of daily calls—the Physician who can contribute most to the mutual entertainment, in being adapted to respond by congenial disposition, or requirements, or manners, is but affording, in return, a measure for the culture by which he is welcomed and addressed. Thus it was with Darwin by his poetic charms, with Gregory by his classic scholarship, with Abercrombie by his profound philosophy, and