

in medicine is to devote their energies and time to the mastering of special branches of medicine and surgery, thereby qualifying themselves to practise as consultants or specialists. While one cannot but admit that concentration of thought and work on any branch of medicine or surgery conduces to greater efficiency in that branch, we would advise recent graduates to rather aim at acquiring a sound knowledge of all the branches of medical science in the first years of practice. By so doing they will discover their aptitude for a special branch of medical science, and should they eventually decide on adopting a specialty, they will have acquired that general experience of diseases which will materially influence the quality of their special work.

Your selection of a suitable field for practice must be made with the greatest care. You will be guided in your ultimate choice of a suitable location by personal considerations of health, character, professional ability and pecuniary resources, by the professional competition likely to be encountered, by the prosperity of the community, and by the probability of a constant increase in the population of the town or rural district. Yet, after you have settled down in what seems to be a suitable location, chosen with the due exercise of caution and forethought, circumstances may arise which will unfavorably influence your chances of professional success. The growth of practice may in consequence be slow, and your work ill-remunerated. The young physician, thus circumstanced, must not allow the slow growth of medical reputation and practice to discourage him. Should he be fortunate in possessing an independent income, sufficient for his needs, he will act wisely if he persists in giving the location of his choice a fair trial, with the determination of commanding success by the faithful and thorough performance of his work. Let him have recourse to every legitimate means of making known his professional worth, and if he be truly competent, his neighbors will after a time recognize his merit. In endeavoring to secure professional success, you should be constantly on the watch for opportunities, and be prepared to avail yourselves of them when they arise, for in this often lies the secret of success.

“ There is a tide in the affairs of men,
Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune ;
Omitted, all the voyage of their life
Is bound in shallows and in miseries.”

It is in the judgment and ability shown in taking the tide