

and of man himself, cry aloud to us all to unite our forces in the battle against disease, and to attain unto a better light and a broader knowledge. Gentlemen, it may be difficult for you who, in McGill, sit in the same lecture-rooms, work in the same laboratories, and pass the same examinations in the primary departments, as the students of veterinary and dental surgery, to understand why these branches of the profession and that you have chosen are not more closely united; especially as now the interests of the public demand it, owing to the demonstrated communicability of disease from animals to man and the reverse. But there is a corporate and professional pride against which I would warn you. Beware of those that would seek to impregnate you with that which, like a calcifying process, arrests growth. Wherever you meet a professional brother, if he is good man and true, no matter whether veterinary or dental surgeon, or practitioner of human medicine, commune with him,—it will do you good and him good; and if he is not a good man and true, seek better company, no matter by what name he may be called.

But there is an equally bright prospect before the great public. The profession and the public will alike realize that the great mission of the physician is to *prevent* disease. Families will be willing to pay to have their past physical histories studied; they will take pains to preserve for the use of their posterity fuller and more accurate health-records than those to which they have been heir. The laws of heredity will be better understood and, let us hope, acted upon than now, owing to a quickened moral sense which will unquestionably result if our progress is real. The physician of that day will have a pleasanter career, because of less ignorance and prejudice to combat; but he will require to be a better man in all respects than his representative of to-day. His knowledge will not be confined to what pertains strictly to his own profession, but he must, of necessity, be one of the best educated men in the whole community, particularly in science.

It may be that the pure scientist should rank intellectually above the physician of to-day; but the future physician must be both.