

In such high estimation was it held by the ancients that they deified the most celebrated physician Æsculapius.

The history of our profession dates to the earliest ages of man, for with his appearance on this globe his ills commenced and with them attempts to relieve them.

As our knowledge increased experience began, and records commenced on all subjects.

All sciences, as we now know them, are but the vast chaos of human record from the remotest ages, organized and reduced to system and order by the master minds whose names we look back to with admiration and reverence, that they had been able to accomplish so much with such poor appliances as they had to work with ; and whose names stand out as goals to be won and as examples to be imitated.

In our days when the field of labour is so extended, it has become the custom to divide the whole field among a number of hands, and for each to select his own special department for the most perfect cultivation.

In medicine this system of division of labour has been elaborated and we have our specialists. It is, however necessary for a member of our profession, before becoming a specialist to make himself proficient in the general knowledge thereof, and more especially is this the case in this country where the field of your labours will be largely extended through a sparsely populated district.

In large cities you may give up the general practice to become a specialist, but in the country you must be able to act at once in every case you may be called upon to attend.

Therefore cultivate all the branches of your curriculum and your profession

Your student life has for its object not merely the cramming you to pass an examination, although that is by law rendered a necessity, and rightly so ; it has for its object the rendering you qualified to treat a case of disease whenever and wherever you may be called upon, and you must be ready to act on the moment ; there is no waiting to consult authorities, you must have your knowledge at your