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SCHOLARSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL LIFE.

It is common to speak of the professions of medicine, law and theology as the learned professions. But the first two are in great danger of losing this honor. Look over the names of the graduates of almost any school of medicine or law, and you will see how small is the proportion of the college graduates among them. It is sad that so many boys, fresh from the farm, are rushed through a brief course in some impecunious and ambitious medical college, and are then turned adrift to practise their ignorance on an innocent and unsuspecting community. To a considerable degree this is true also of schools of law; to a smaller degree it is true of schools of theology. At times it would seem that the ministry is to be the only learned profession, in a technical sense in which the term has so long been used. You say, I magnify mine office. The Apostle Paul did so, and I believe in this kind of apostolic succession. I plead for a higher grade of scholarship in all the professions, and this is for good reasons.

There is, first, the unscholarly tendency of necessary professional drudgery. There is an immense amount of this in all forms of professional work. The ideal and the actual in a man's profession differ widely. There is danger that a profession may become simply a trade. In order that a man may make his actual professional life approach his ideal, he must enter it with much general knowledge and special scholarship. We are, as a rule, in too great haste to begin our work. We ought to remember that a man has begun his work when he has begun in earnest to prepare for it. Men want to be in the ministry, for example; they want to be at work, as they say. They forget that opportunities for the