

sion. Some are of an inventive turn of mind, and do not always confine their ingenuity to their own art. Joint stock companies generally have a representative physician on their directorates. Some develop a religious tendency, and spend a great deal of time with that and cognate subjects. Politics, however, is the great electric light which attracts the medical moth, and the ground around it is strewn with its victims.

It matters not whether it is the municipal moth, the legislative moth, or the federal moth, which the deluded doctor has in his bonnet, the effect on his scalp is all the same, for in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred he loses it.

To be successful in any of those ventures time and money must be given up freely, because the heaven-born statesman is just as much a *rara avis*, as the celestial advent of a doctor.

The moment he launches his bark on the political sea, that moment his thoughts diverge, and those who have felt the maelstrom of a political vortex, will tell you that the eddies of professional life are dead calms by comparison.

No matter what the fad may be, or what the motive is, just in proportion to the time and thought which is diverted from his professional studies will he fall behind in his standing as a physician, for it is a calling requiring a concentration of all his best faculties to keep up with the advance of modern thought and modern practice.

While these remarks might be more beneficial if directed to a class of students than to the matured savants, who largely compose my audience, yet the warning may not be too late to benefit some who have made the fatal mistake of listening to the Banshee's voice, but who can yet be made to see the error of their way, and can be induced to return to their first love.

I inscribe it in luminous letters on the wall that it is easier to serve God and Mammon than to engage in commerce and politics, and at the same time occupy the front rank as a physician or surgeon.

CONTRACT LODGE WORK.

Did time permit I would like to add my protest against the debasing practice of contract lodge work.

Vampire never bled its prey more mercilessly than the pseudo-benevolent societies have the lodge doctor. While wholly dependent on him for existence the lodge committees have dictated a ridiculous fee for his services, and the plastic physician, by his acceptance of it, has signed an acknowledgement that he has joined the