

for appreciation upon any adventitious circumstance of time or place, or so little needs extraneous titles of honor to give it dignity and respect. Put a doctor in the midst of the wildest savages and they will respect the medicine-man, when the lawyer's fluent sophistry and the preacher's pathetic eloquence would not gain them consideration, or even save them from death. Associations which send missionaries to the heathen constantly recognize this fact. Protected by his medical skill, David Livingstone passed unharmed and esteemed, among the savage tribes of Africa; and a much greater than he, the Divine Christ while a preacher, cultivated the character and functions of a healer of the sick.

To-day, gentlemen, you enroll in the great band of workers of our profession at a time when the position of medicine in the estimation of the race, and when its capacities for the saving of life and the relief of human suffering are far in advance of what they have ever been—far in advance of what they were even twenty years ago. If it were possible, and time permitted, it might be profitable to draw a comparison, but there is to-day neither time nor occasion. There are many important functions to perform and positions you will be called upon to fill, other than those of a strictly professional capacity. The family physician is, nowadays, often the most trusted counselor and adviser. He occupies the same position as did the priest of old. Hence, without doubt, a vast amount of influence for good, but also possibly for evil, if not properly exercised. Perhaps this is going too far; at all events, it is safe to say that the field is divided between the clergyman and the physician. You will therefore be called upon, in season and out of season, to advise individuals and families. Your ability so to do this well must depend not only upon strictly professional attainments, but upon the position you have acquired in the confidence of your patients, and that will depend largely upon general culture, on knowledge of men and things rightly used. Apart from the function of adviser and counsellor in matters other than medical, the family doctor exercises a great influence upon the morals and manners of his patients. Your conduct and deportment should be that of gentlemen. Tidy and cleanly in person, in manners a pattern,