

consider it one of the first duties to record for the benefit of the profession their cases, methods and results. In this way only can science be advanced. Deeds of darkness love darkness, but science and truth love the light. Secrecy begets carelessness and ignorance, and is the favorite refuge of the charlatan. But some of you may say, that is all very well for the city men with their great hospital and other advantages, it is easy enough for them to do original work and advance the cause of Science; but what can be expected from a poor country practitioner, isolated from converse with his confrères, with limited experience, few books, scanty means and opportunities all too few. No man's lot is so humble that he cannot cherish the scientific spirit. Your books may be few, but the great book of Nature lies ever open. Read thoroughly the few lines or chapters spread before you, and by mere concentration of attention you may discover therein a hidden meaning undetected by those who perforce must skim from page to page. The country practitioner has one great advantage over his city confrère; *he has time to think*. The rush and whirl of city life are fatal to steady, fruitful thought. and we find that many of the brightest discoveries of scientific medicine are the contribution of quiet, thoughtful men with limited opportunities, but imbued with the scientific spirit. You are begining your career in a time of unusual scientific activity. Chemistry, experimental physiology, pathology, and pharmacology are rapidly changing the aspect of practical medicine. Sanitary science and preventive medicine offer specially rich fields for original research. The problems are legion and demand for their solution carefulness of observation, accuracy of thought and soundness of judgment. Every one of you can do something; will you try? You will not be losers thereby, for if the true scientific fire burns in your hearts and illumines your daily work, you will find work no longer wearisome, poverty no longer despicable, disease and death no longer loathsome or terrible. Above all, have faith in yourselves; have faith in your art. Let a firm abiding faith be the mainspring of your practice. No human theory is perfect. Science and art are progressing, improving. Be ready to abandon the *old* when proved *false*, to accept the *new* when proved *true*. But do not throw away the faith you have until you are sure of another