

necessity of self-examination to determine whether or no you have considered the duties you are undertaking. Whether the selection you have made of medicine as a profession is all that you could wish for in an occupation. Be assured that the art and science of Medicine and Surgery is no mean mistress to be toyed with for an hour and cast off at your pleasure, she is exacting, and demands of you the most ardent and intense devotion of your first love, and if you freely give that devotion she will not be backward in repaying you for your toil.

Should your self-communion lead you to doubt if you are quite sure of yourselves, then reconsider your decision and if you arrive at any adverse opinion, retire from the profession, and seek some occupation more in consonance with your ideas of life.

Let us see what is required of the student in medicine:

You come here under the supposition that you have received a liberal education, and the more liberal and extended that education has been the more easy you will find the after steps, which lead you to the study of the hidden mysteries of nature and science. These studies being arranged for a period of four years, you will, if wanting in preliminary knowledge, have hard work to make up for those deficiencies.

You now have your professional studies to go through and they require of you a total abnegation of self; you must be ever ready to attend to any duty you may be called upon to perform, for accidents happen at all sorts of inconvenient hours, and at last having passed your examinations with flying colors, and been rewarded for your proficiency by your license to practice you commence the hard experiences of life.

It is needless to remind you of the oft-told tale of ill-requited toil, that has often before been mentioned to you, but gentlemen, you have selected a profession which has for its object the alleviation of human suffering. What more ennobling object can a man have in view.