

Annual circular of the Medical Department of Kemper College : together with an address delivered before the alumni of the college at the commencement, March 1, 1842 / by John S. Moore.

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ANNUAL CIRCULAR

OF THE

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

OF

KEMPER COLLEGE;

TOGETHER WITH

AN ADDRESS,

DELIVERED BEFORE THE ALUMNI OF THE COLLEGE,

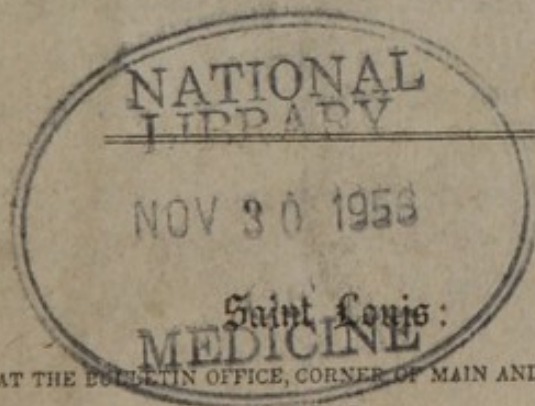
AT

THE COMMENCEMENT, MARCH 1, 1842,

BY

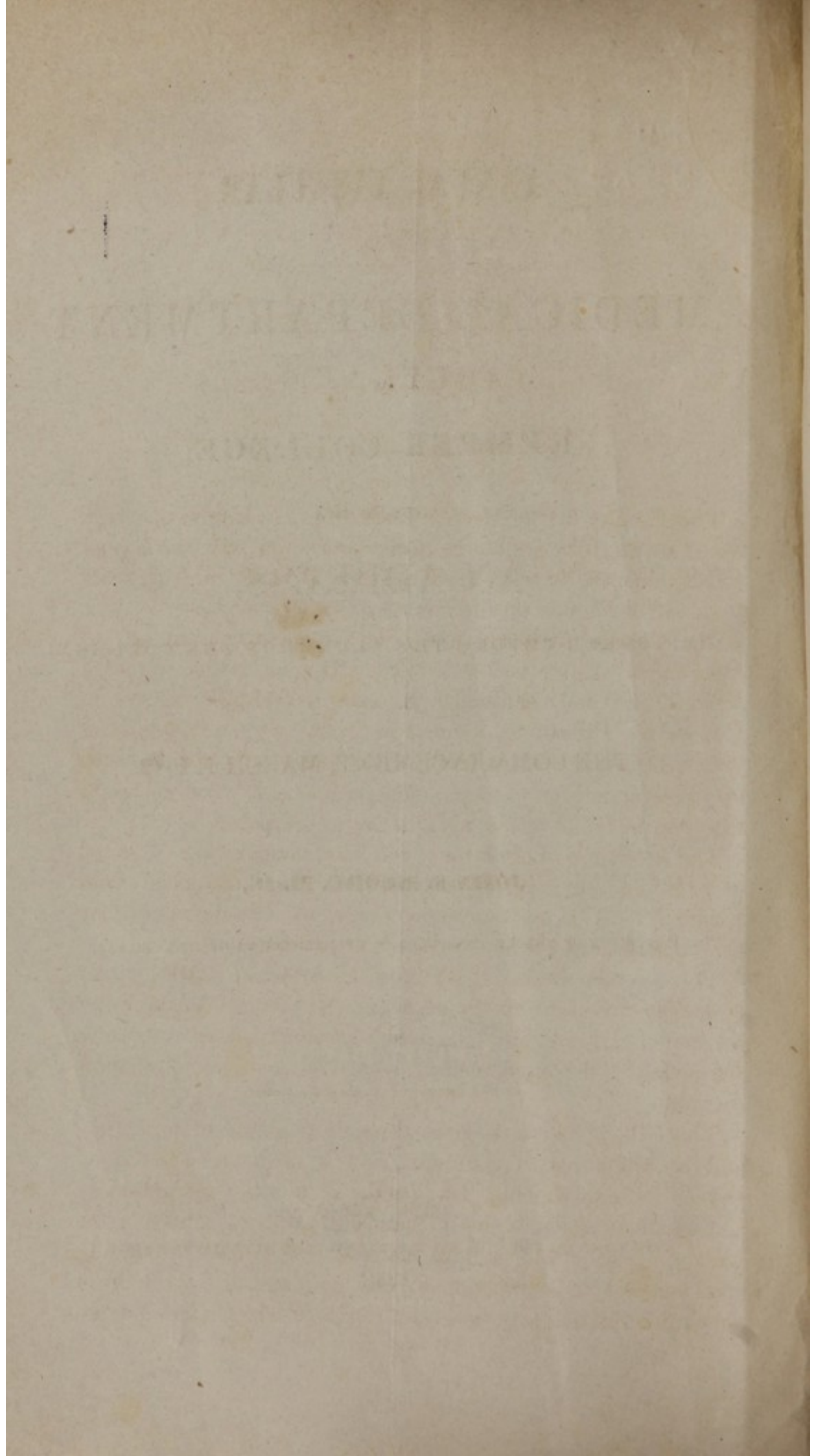
JOHN S. MOORE, M. D.,

PROFESSOR OF THEORY AND PRACTICE OF MEDICINE IN KEMPER COLLEGE.



PRINTED AT THE BULLETIN OFFICE, CORNER OF MAIN AND CHESNUT STREETS.

1842.



CIRCULAR.

THE Faculty of the Medical Department of Kemper College would respectfully announce to the profession, that the School will commence its session on the first Monday in November next, and terminate on the last week of February.

The College Buildings are now complete, embracing an Anatomical Amphitheatre which will contain five hundred persons, and an Anatomical Museum as valuable as any in the west. Dissecting Rooms, in every way calculated for the convenience and comfort of the pupil, with the material for their supply, at a rate much cheaper and more abundant than can be found in the west, at any other point.

The Chemical Laboratory will also contain five hundred persons, and, by recent purchases, is amply supplied with apparatus. A more thorough course on Chemistry cannot be obtained in any school in the United States.

The common Lecturing Hall, will contain an equal number of pupils, and for convenience and comfort is unsurpassed by that of any school in the west; in short, all the requisites for giving a thorough medical education are now in our possession.

The School has now gone through its period of probation, and has established a character, and is no longer viewed by any as an experiment. Our pupils, in point of respectability and numbers, have at least been equal to any school in the west of its age; and judging from the past, and calculating upon success in proportion to our age and the growth of population in our city and vast territory which surrounds us,

a few years must give us the largest city and the largest medical school in the Mississippi valley.

On the 1st of March the Trustees and Faculty conferred the degree of Doctor of Medicine on the following gentlemen:

J. M. PERRY, St. Louis, Mo.

J. W. D. BELT, do.

JOHN EDGAR, Iowa.

E. HILDRITT, St. Louis.

A. X. ILLINSKI, Illinois.

CHARLES W. STEVENS, Illinois.

DOUGALD F. STEPHENS, Missouri.

SAMUEL THOMPSON, Illinois.

JOHN W. MORRISON, Tennessee.

BERIAH GRAHAM, Missouri.

JAMES STANHOPE PEACOCKE, Virginia.

LEO. TWYMAN, Missouri.

NATHAN F. WATSON, St. Louis.

HONORARY DEGREES;

ISRAEL MCGREADY, Potosi, Mo.

ISAAC CURD, Fulton, Mo.

TRUSTEES.

Rt. Rev. JACKSON KEMPER, D. D., President of the Board.

Rev. E. C. HUTCHINSON, President of the College.

EDWARD TRACY,
JOSIAH SPALDING,
AUGUSTUS KERR,
HERMAN L. HOFFMAN,
HENRY VON PHUL,
JOSEPH C. LAVIELLE,
WILSON P. HUNT,
ROBERT WASH,

J. PARKER DOANE,
DANIEL HOUGH,
CHARLES JABINE,
REV. PETER R. MINARD,
HENRY S. COXE,
JAMES L. ENGLISH,
N. P. TAYLOR,
REV. F. F. PEAKE.

FACULTY.

JOHN DE WOLF, M. D., (late Prof. of Brown University, R. I., Woodstock Medical School, and Vermont Academy of Medicine,)

Professor of Chemistry and Pharmacy.

JOHN S. MOORE, M. D., Professor of Theory and Practice of Medicine.

RICHARD F. BARRETT, M. D., Professor of the Institutes of Medicine.

E. H. MERRYMAN, M. D., Professor of Materia Medica and Medical Botany.

WILLIAM CARR LANE, M. D., Professor of Obstetrics and Diseases of Women and Children.

S. GRATZ MOSES, M. D., Adjunct Professor of Obstetrics, &c.

JOSEPH N. McDOWELL, M. D., (late Professor of Special and Surgical Anatomy in the Cincinnati College,)

Professor of Anatomy and Surgery.

Board can be obtained at as low a rate in St. Louis as in any city in the west; the usual price for good and comfortable board being from three to four dollars per week.

The price of tickets will be fifteen dollars each, with the exception of the Professor of Anatomy and Surgery, who lectures nine times a week, and whose ticket will be twenty dollars. The Hospital ticket five dollars, taken at the discretion of the pupil.

The Dissecting ticket is ten dollars, which is required to be taken once before graduation. The Matriculation ticket five dollars, making in all one hundred dollars required for the course. The Graduation fee twenty dollars, which is to be paid to the Dean on handing in the thesis. Students who design applying for the honors of the profession, must acquaint the Dean of their intention by the 1st of February, and give evidence of their having attended two full courses of lectures in this or some other school of good repute ; or of their having been in reputable practice for three years previous to their attendance on lectures, and defend a thesis handed to the Faculty for examination, before the 20th of February.

The regular lectures of the school will commence on the first Monday in November, and end on the last of February. Six lectures will be delivered every day, and seven three times a week.

The Dissecting rooms will be open on the 1st of October, and the students are invited to embrace the advantages of Practical Anatomy for the month free of charge, during which time a lecture will be delivered every day on one of the departments.

J. N. McDOWELL,

Dean of the Faculty.

St. Louis, March 1st, 1842.

DEAR SIR:

At a meeting of the Graduates of the Medical Department of Kemper College, DOUGOLD F. STEVENS in the chair, it was resolved that a Committee be appointed to request the publication of your Valedictory Address.

We, therefore, respectfully communicate our joint wishes, and hope that we shall be favored by your compliance.

Most respectfully,

Your obedient servants,

B. GRAHAM,	}	Committee.
C. W. STEVENS,		
J. W. D. BELT,		
N. F. WATSON,		

To Prof. JOHN S. MOORE.

~~MICROFILMED~~
~~To be Discarded~~



TO BE DISCARDED
MICROFILMED

ADDRESS.

GENTLEMEN:

The task has been imposed upon me of taking, according to custom in such cases, a formal leave of you — of addressing you in a speech *valedictory*. Had this duty fallen to the lot of some of my venerable colleagues, whose age would have shielded them from the imputation of presumption, and whose experience in regard to those topics on which you should be addressed would have imparted wisdom to their remarks, it would have met with my hearty acquiescence. Willing, however, at all times, and in any way whatever, to contribute my mite to the promotion of a cause in which you, as well as I, are interested, I have yielded obsequiously to the task.

As evidence to the world of your competency to practice the healing art, and as the reward of your industry and successful devotion to your professional studies during the two past winters, as evinced by your theses and your examinations in the green room, our much respected President has just conferred on you the Doctorate in Medicine. You are about to leave the walls of your alma mater—to return to your homes—to engage in the practical duties of your profession—to commingle with the world, the great world, about which many of you are doubtless more ignorant, than of the beautiful processes of the chemical laboratory, or the more secret mysteries of the dissecting room.

When the father is about taking leave of his son—when about sending him out into the world to seek his own fortune, and to become the architect of his own character, he i

apt to revert his mind's eye to his own past history, and to glean from his memory of the events of by-gone years, those maxims of wisdom which his experience has taught him, and those principles of action, the correctness of which has been confirmed by his own observation,—these he is wont to impress on the mind of his boy, at the auspicious moment of parting, in the fond hope that they will illuminate his way through the world, and prevent him swerving widely from the path of rectitude and propriety. Now, notwithstanding, for a variety of considerations I cannot claim this paternal relation towards you, yet, standing here as I do, in the stead of my venerable colleague, and as the organ of the Medical Faculty, do not, I intreat you, consider me either arrogant or presumptuous, whilst, with all the fervor of a father's feelings, I administer to you a little wholesome advice.

It is unfortunately but too often the case, that the student, after having obtained the degree of Doctor of Medicine, supposes the goal of his ambition has been won—that all has been accomplished which he is capable of effecting—folds his arms in careless indifference to his profession, or, what is still worse, bends the willing knee at the shrine of Bacchus, of Mammon, or becomes the loathsome debauchee. The example of such we would have you most sedulously avoid. Aside from the moral delinquencies involved in such a course, you should know, that attendance on a few courses of lectures, together with the ordinary term of private pupilage, are entirely insufficient to make you accomplished physicians. That what you are to expect from a medical school consists mainly in a knowledge of those great general principles which run through the different departments of medicine, and which are to be carried out and investigated by yourselves. That the knowledge thus obtained is a mere crayon sketch, a mere drawing of the outlines of medical science; the painting of which, and the giving to it that peculiar expression and contour of features, which will make it a correct likeness of medical science as it now exists, are works for your own hands to accomplish. In other words, what you learn in a medical school should be considered by you as the foundation

merely of your professional knowledge; the superstructure upon which, you are to rear for yourselves, by a careful study of the best authorities, and by your own clinical observations.

A knowledge of your profession, gentlemen, thus perfected, is, abstractly considered, very important and very proper. But this is not all. You should make your profession a source of emolument to yourselves, and a blessing to the world. Now, to accomplish these objects you must practice it. And the question very naturally arises here, how is practice to be procured? In answer to this interrogatory, I would say, that a paramount consideration with every physician should be, to merit the patronage of community before he expects to obtain it; and so far as a knowledge of medical science goes to constitute professional merit, we have already indicated to you how it is to be acquired. There are other considerations, however, involved in the art of procuring practice, but little inferior, in point of importance, to a knowledge of your profession. To be successful in any vocation whatever in life, a man must be industrious and laborious. As physicians, then, you should always be found at your office—always ready to visit the sick—to visit them willingly—to visit them in a hurry—to revisit them attentively and punctually—and to discharge, with manly firmness, the duties which may devolve on you at the bed-side of your patient.

But further. According to the taste of the present age, it is almost impossible for a physician, unless his qualifications be pre-eminent, indeed, to secure a lucrative practice, without ingratiating himself with the people—the *sovereign people*. In short, it is necessary that he should become personally popular, before he can expect to become professionally so. This is doubtless all very well, and the medical man should not object to it, as it affords an additional inducement to the cultivation of those social feelings and relations, on which his happiness so very much depends. Use, then, all fair, honorable, and gentlemanly means to secure the confidence and affection of the community in which you may reside; but be sure, when stooping to conquer, that you do not stoop too low. As a further means of securing the confidence and esteem of

your patients, learn to treat them kindly and affectionately. Learn to sympathize with them in their afflictions—to soothe their anguish—to regard the delicacy of their feelings—to avoid the infliction of unnecessary pain—and thus avoid adding poignancy to the miseries of which they are already the victims. A man may be learned in his profession—industrious in his habits—and even skillful in his practice; yet, if he is unfeeling, unsympathizing, regardless of the delicacy of the patient's feelings, and of the infliction of unnecessary pain—rioting, apparently, in the miseries which he causes around him; such a man is worse than a savage—he is a *brute*. To a correct knowledge, then, of your profession, together with industry, a disposition to please, a firmness of purpose, enabling you to discharge your duty under circumstances the most appalling, add a sympathy for the sufferings of your fellow beings—a sympathy for your patients—the last finishing touch to the character of the accomplished physician.

There is at present, and probably will be through all future time, much competition in the practice of medicine. You will frequently come in collision with your professional brethren—your interest and theirs will clash—and the demeaning yourself properly towards them, or the observance of a proper professional etiquette, will tell loudly on your characters as physicians. It would be impossible for me to lay down rules of etiquette, applicable to every possible contingency. In fact, I believe it is generally the case that every physician is the author of his own code of medical ethics. This much, however, I will say, that there is one universal rule, the golden rule, as it has been called, *par excellence*, by a strict observance of which you will rarely go astray. It is this: “Do unto others as you would have them, under like circumstances, do unto you;” to which we might add, attend to your own business, and let the business of others alone. And the principle herein involved might, I imagine, without any breach of propriety, be extended to other professions, and even to the every-day transactions of life. So much, gentlemen, for the *duties* which you owe to yourselves, to your professional brethren and to the world.

The profession of your choice is one of which you may well be proud. Viewed as a science, it constitutes the most interesting department of human knowledge—viewed, practically, as an art, it is, unless degraded by the incumbent, honorable, dignified, and god-like in its character. One of the principal labours of the Saviour of the world whilst on earth, was to heal the sick. And there is, perhaps, no situation in life, in which a man of benevolent feelings can be placed, which affords him so fair an opportunity of manifesting his benevolence in acts of beneficence, as the practice of medicine. The man of business has to acquire wealth before he is in a condition to bestow his bounties on the world, and it but too often happens, that, in proportion to his acquisitions, does he lose the disposition to use it for the benefit of others. Not so, however, with the physician: From the earliest period of his professional existence, he has frequent opportunities of conferring benefits on his fellow beings—benefits, too, which are, literally, of vital importance. Should the physician succeed in restoring to health the obscurest and most worthless of mankind, the bare consciousness of having snatched from the grave a human being, is, to the benevolent mind, a sufficient reward. Should he succeed in saving from a premature grave the man of influence and usefulness in the world, he can felicitate himself, not only on having conferred a personal benefit, but a benefit on community.

Should the Physician be summoned to attend in dangerous illness, the father or mother of a family; one on whose preservation the hopes and happiness of numerous friends and a numerous offspring depend;—when he marks the gloom and anxiety which overshadows every countenance—when he feels that *he* is looked to as the sheet anchor of his patients hope—that his every word is anxiously weighed, and his every look anxiously scrutinized—in the midst of all this gloom, when the ray of hope breaks into, and dispels the darkness of despair from the chamber of the patient—when the anxiety which had seized upon all vanishes, as if the wand of the magician had waved over the scene—the house which had recently been one of mourning, in anticipation of a

fearful event, becomes the scene of mirthfulness and congratulation. Who, let me inquire, can witness an occasion like this, and feel that himself has been the cause of the happy and magic change, without experiencing a thrill of happiness in his bosom, which wealth cannot purchase and which conquest cannot achieve? And who feels this? It is alone the physician. But suppose the physician is so fortunate as to rescue from imminent death the interesting child of a fond parent—one on whom the full tide of a mother's affections is constantly poured—one over whom she bends with intense interest, and around whose couch she lingers with sleepless vigilance. If, under circumstances of such deep anxiety, your practice be successful, you have the satisfaction of knowing, not only that you have restored to health an innocent being, but that you have conferred happiness on a fond parent, the brightest gem in whose character is her maternal fondness. But not only this; you have frequently the pleasure of hearing from woman's own lips, her heart-felt thanks and gratitude for your skill and kindness.

In short, gentlemen, there is in every well organized mind a feeling of benevolence—a feeling heaven-born in character, which distinguishes man from the inferior animals, and approximates him to that pure Being from whom he derived his origin—a feeling which, in proportion to its purity, is productive of happiness, when exercised in acts of beneficence. And under this view of the subject, we may with much truth and propriety say, that the greatest luxury which the mind of man is capable of enjoying, is *the luxury of doing good*.

The profession, however, for which you have manifested a preference, is not one exclusively of benevolence and charity. He who combines in himself those necessary requisites which go to constitute a good physician, has no difficulty in making it a lucrative vocation—sufficiently so, at least, for all the necessary purposes of life. True, it is not the high road to wealth; and it is a matter of much doubt, whether they who engage in those pursuits which lead more directly to fortune, wisely consult their own happiness. Our profession, then, combines these rare incompatibilities, the conferring benefit on others at the same time that we benefit ourselves.

Whilst we would thus laud the characteristics of the vocation which you have selected, which are worthy of commendation, we would not wish to impose on you by taking a one-sided view of this matter. Know, then, that medicine has also its offsets—its disadvantages. Practically considered it is a laborious profession—one requiring much mental labor, and productive of much mental anxiety. The physician has his natural rest often broken in upon—he is exposed to the inclemencies of the weather—has his social enjoyments often marred by requisitions on his professional services—finds the world ungrateful, and disposed often to censure him when he is not to blame—loses his patients occasionally, which, under any circumstances is a very unpleasant business, and the unpleasantness is much enhanced, if it happen to be connected with a suspicion in his own mind, that a course of treatment somewhat different, might have saved him. In consequence of the tax, which the practice of medicine thus imposes on the physical and mental energies of man, physicians have been found, on an average, to be more short-lived than the members of any other profession. But, gentlemen, in a practice of more than ten years, I have realized, perhaps, all the disadvantages I have enumerated, but the last; and can with much truth, even now, say to my Profession, with all thy offsets and with all thy discomforts, *I love thee still!* And I have directed your attention to the excellencies of medicine, in the hope that you too might fall in love with it. It is necessary to your success that you should do so. Be proud, then, of your profession—cultivate a fondness for it—pursue it with an untiring energy, and thus will you be able to build up for yourselves a reputation in the world.

Permit me now, gentlemen, to direct your attention to a somewhat different subject—one, however, which is calculated to exert no inconsiderable influence on your professional characters. You are the alumni of the Medical Department of Kemper College; and we hope and believe you have not acted unwisely in selecting our school as your alma mater. There subsists, between the alumnus and the school from which he emanates, a mutual relation—the respectability of

the one adding respectability to the other, and *vice versa*. What think you, then, of your alma mater? Will she succeed, be useful, and reflect honor on you, or will she not? Let us look, if you please, for a few minutes, at the probabilities of her success. Aside from buildings ample for all the necessary purposes of teaching—aside from a chemical apparatus sufficiently extensive for all useful purposes—and aside from an anatomical museum, inferior to but few, will not the size, business, and giant-like growth of St. Louis, give respectability to her institutions? Does there not exist here, as many natural facilities for teaching the profession as in any other school in the west? Is not St. Louis more accessible by water, and equally as much so by land, as any other inland town in the union? Are we not surrounded by an expanse of country almost unlimited in extent—unsurpassed in fertility—admitting of a population dense to an unparalleled degree—and amongst whom will not many physicians be needed? Are we not remote from competition, and does not our proximity to the regions of country circumjacent, together with our greater accessibility, give us a decided advantage over schools which are more remote? The Faculty of Kemper College, in viewing these local advantages, have come to the deliberate conclusion, that, to build up and sustain, in the city of St. Louis, a Medical School, is an enterprise entirely practicable. On viewing the success of the school during its two first sessions—observing an increase of at least one hundred per cent. in the medical class, they have arrived at the reasonable conclusion, that it will succeed—and finally, on reviewing the whole of the premises, they have come to the unequivocal determination that *it shall succeed*. Bonaparte has said that the word “impossible” should be expunged from every language—that all which is needful for success is a firm and unflinching determination to succeed. And, I doubt not, if the difficulties in the way of this institution were swelled to double their present magnitude, that the now existing Faculty, with their determined resolution, would be able to push it triumphantly over all opposing obstacles. This, gentlemen, is not idle boast. We are not entirely dependent for

success on accidental local causes. We flatter ourselves that we possess, within our own Faculty, the elements of success. Who are this Faculty, and what are their claims on your confidence? The Professor of Physiology, Pathology and Clinical Medicine, brings with him from Kentucky, a high character for talents—and the lectures he has delivered during the present month have more than realized the expectations of the Faculty, and have already made him decidedly a favorite with the medical class. The incumbent of the chair of Obstetrics and Diseases of Women and Children is a gentleman—long a resident of this city—a man who stands deservedly high for talents and his many private virtues—who has practiced his profession for more than a quarter of a century in St. Louis, with almost unparalleled success, especially in the department which he now occupies—and notwithstanding indisposition and private business have prevented him from giving his full quota of lectures during the present term, I am happy to say, that his omissions have been satisfactorily supplied by his able adjunct. The Professor of Materia Medica is a gentleman from the adjoining State of Illinois. After having stood confessedly at the head of his profession for a number of years in that State, he brings with him to St. Louis an enviable reputation as a man of science, and as a practitioner of Medicine and Surgery. And I am happy to know that his course of lectures on Materia Medica has given entire satisfaction to the class. Our Professor of Chemistry has grown grey in teaching his department, and has heretofore acquired a high reputation in several schools east of the mountains. His logical mind—his lucid, forcible and unique manner of lecturing—his tact in bringing order out of confusion, in the most intricate subjects—his fondness for *facts*, and his uncompromising hostility to *theory*, need no commendation from me to cause you properly and highly to appreciate them.

The departments of Anatomy and Surgery in this school are filled by a man who has never yet failed to give satisfaction in a course of lectures. Who is our Professor of Anatomy and Surgery? My highly esteemed and worthy preceptor—I

man who has grown prematurely grey in the labors of teaching—who has won for himself golden opinions whilst lecturing alongside the magnates of his profession—the founder of this school, the accomplishment of which, under the then existing circumstances, demanded a degree of self devotion and untiring energy, which few, and probably I might say none but himself, would or could have exercised. And I am proud, gentlemen, to know that this energy lives yet unimpaired—is always equal to the emergency which calls it forth—and I honestly believe it will live on, without ever being repressed or chilled, save by the cold damps of the grave.

Last and least, myself. I am fully conscious, that during the past winter I have not done that amount of justice to my department, to you, or to myself, which, under other circumstances, I might have done. The only available apology which I can offer is, want of preparation. You are all apprised of the fact, that I was transferred to the department of the Theory and Practice of Medicine so short a time before the commencement of the session, as to preclude me from making the necessary preparation. This however, gentlemen, I pledge myself to for the future, that during the next summer, and during subsequent time, if necessary, I will kneel at the shrine of my profession with all of the idolatrous devotion of an eastern worshipper, until I have perfected myself, as far as my abilities will permit me, in the department which I have the honor to fill.

Such are the local advantages of this school—such the firm resolve of its Faculty, and such are the men who compose that Faculty. What think you, then, of its success? It has been called, and with much truth, too, the infant Medical Department of Kemper College; but it is now two years old. The critical period of infancy—the age of dentition has passed by. It can now stand alone. Already does its young imagination begin to riot in golden dreams of the future—and we may reasonably suppose that its growth will be henceforward more rapid, and its existence more secure.

This school has been, for the last two years, under a state of trial. The past and present classes have constituted the

grand and traverse juries, to try the merits of its case. The question is, "guilty or not guilty of being able to teach the science of medicine and surgery." To your verdict on this subject the world and the profession will look. You are the proper, and the only proper, adjudicators of this case. You have not casually dropped into the lecture room, and heard from a professor a dull lecture, growing out of his subject or his own feelings at the time, and thus been induced to under-rate his merit; nor have you casually heard a professor make a more than usually felicitous display, and thus been led to overrate his abilities; but, gentlemen, you have heard the whole course, and, consequently, are able to balance and reconcile the conflicting evidence, and arrive at a just conclusion. I am willing to submit the case to you. I would not forestall your verdict, nor bias your opinions—I am willing that your alma mater should rise or fall on her own merits. I feel satisfied if she has merit, she ought to, and will flourish; if she has not, she ought to and will sink. The same general law which causes rarified air to seek a stratum in the higher regions of the atmosphere of its own specific gravity—the same which causes water to seek an equilibrium, will, with as much certainty, cause not only institutions, but men, when their merits are known, to ascend or descend in the scale of respectability.

Finally, gentlemen, go! May you be a blessing to the world. May Heaven speed you to professional distinction—to wealth—to happiness. It only now remains for me to say to you—*farewell!*

