

SCIENCE

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FRIDAY, JULY 7, 1899.

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KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE.*

THE honor of delivering the address upon this occasion is great; the responsibility of appearing as the successor of the distinguished men who have addressed you in

* Yale University Medical Commencement Address, June 29, 1899.

previous years is also great, yet, as I thank you for your generous welcome, I feel, most of all, the pleasure of being the guest of Yale. To a Harvard man an honor bestowed by Yale has a special and very pleasant value.

Yale and Harvard have been working together for two centuries; their aims have always been similar; their developments have been parallel, and they have long sought one another for those friendly contests, intellectual and athletic, which yearly renew the close bonds between the two universities. I hope that their experience has been mutually helpful, for I am sure at least that Harvard has often learned from Yale, and they both have the same problems to solve if necessary.

Just at present there is a whole series of urgent problems in medical education before both institutions, and I shall, with your permission, try now to contribute to the discussion of some of those problems. You, who are upon the eve of graduation, know that you have received a far better preparation for the practice of medicine than was possible for any one to obtain a generation ago. You owe this advantage to the constant recognition of the possibility of improvement in medical education, and you should carry forth the feeling that it is now your duty to promote further progress in the organization and methods of medical schools. It is, therefore, eminently fitting

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