VALEDICTORY ADDRESS TO THE GRADUATING CLASS OF THE JEFFERSON MEDICAL COLLEGE, PHILADELPHIA, JUNE 3, 1907

I have been honored by the request of your institution to pronounce the valedictory address to the members of this year’s graduating class, and it appears to me that I can best perform my duty by taking full advantage of the position which I occupy towards you and your alma mater. As you know the outsider sees most of the game, and coming before you as a stranger from a sister institution, keenly interested in the progress and development of medical science and medical teaching in our country, I can speak to you all the more freely and frankly of your relation to your academic foster-mother, of the value of the heritage which she to-day bestows on you, and of your obligations to her, present, past and future.

It is almost a misnomer to speak of a valedictory address to a class of graduating medical men. It is true that in one sense, the purely physical and narrow aspect, this day marks a profound change in your professional careers. You are about to close one chapter of a continued story. You bid good-bye to the lecture rooms and laboratories, to the hospitals and clinics in which you have received your preliminary training, and to the men who guided and directed your studies. And in turn, this venerable and honorable seat of medical teaching and learning, a landmark in the educational development...