

anatomy who has not learnt even a little Latin and Greek; his Gray's Anatomy, perchance, in front of him, his Latin dictionary on one side, and his Greek lexicon on the other. The student, too, must not begin to specialize too soon; he wants a liberal education, an education for its own sake. This goes when the technical education begins, that is, when he leaves school or college to learn to be a "doctor." I was most interested to observe that about two months ago the Lord Chancellor, as warden of the Guild of Undergraduates of the University of Birmingham, when delivering his address, said he thought there was a grievous omission in that University—there was no chair of Greek—and he hoped they would clamor for such a chair and that Birmingham munificence would be effectual in procuring it.

2. *Obstetric Medicine*.—With regard to the education in obstetric medicine and surgery, I would insist that its importance is not appreciated as it should be. This is a subject of which a very practical view should be taken. It is supposed that out of ten newly qualified medical men who leave hospital some seven or eight of them go into what is called, for want of a better name, "general practice"—become general practitioners. Now, what is the basis of general practice? Anyway, in a practitioner's early years it is obstetrics. The young practitioner who has his living to get is not long in finding this out, and in finding out, too, that when he has to rely on his own knowledge and judgment he does not feel himself so well equipped as he thought he was. The remedy for this is obvious—much more practical work before leaving hospital. It is trifling with the subject for it to be deemed sufficient that a man should have attended not less than twenty obstetric cases in order to be signed up.

3. *Anesthetics*.—I have a word to say about anesthetics. The administration of an anesthetic is a duty which may devolve on any practitioner at any moment almost. He should, therefore, feel himself quite capable to undertake this duty. I believe that good instruction is given at the medical schools in this subject at the present day. Anyway, there is a vast improvement in this respect as compared with what obtained in my student days. Then, indeed, unless a man was sufficiently fortunate to obtain his house surgeoncy he had no opportunity for any practical experience with regard to the administration of anesthetics. For many years I have had unusual opportunities of observing the capacities of men, freshly qualified, who have come from various schools all over the country to fill the resident appointment at our infirmary and whose duties have included the administration of anesthetics. There can be no doubt that in recent years men have been better up to this particular work. All the same I think that at the average hospital medical school the im-