

liked also—old John Stewart. While he was not very much as a lecturer, he was all right with the boxing-gloves, which he often put on and would stand well before any of the boys who felt like taking a tilt with him in his spare moments.

I must be honest and say that all the facilities afforded us at that time were very meagre compared with the elaborate arrangements for the students of to-day. I have walked through some of your buildings and am pleased, especially with the facilities for studying biology and chemistry. Then our rooms were small and not very commodious. Now you have large rooms and very many facilities for which to be thankful; also a score or more of teachers. Then a paltry half dozen served us, but they answered the purpose well enough and taught all that was taught in more pretentious colleges. They did not have so much to teach then as now. They had no knowledge of the germ theory of diseases, and of course nothing to say as to the prevention and cure of diseases on that basis. In some respects medicine and surgery were in a transitional stage. Typhoid fever was scarcely recognized as a distinct fever separate from Typhus. The text-book placed in my hands to study did not recognize it, nor was it recognized by Dr. Watson until a new edition that was published in 1857, two years after I graduated. There was great wrangling among the doctors. A few recognized it as a fever *sui generis*, separate and distinct from others, but more ignored its claim to that distinction. Now it is well understood alike as to its cause, nature and mode of treatment, and demands special care and study.

Many other ailments that now require careful attention and are successfully treated were then little known or understood and were allowed to end fatally.

Not a word was ever told us in a distinct manner about appendicitis, now the common terror of us all. Its treatment is a grand triumph of aseptic surgery.

Dr. Dickson was our professor in surgery, and I believe he was a skillful operator, and am told that he proved in after time to be one of the best surgeons of his day. Old Dr. Sampson, a retired army surgeon, was respected by all the