

some branch or other of natural history ?

Physics, on the contrary, if we except the mechanics of Surgery, is only beginning with its electricity, its Roentgen rays, its Finsen light, to enter the domain of Therapeutics; and has hitherto enjoyed but little consideration from the utilitarian point of view in medical education.

It is, therefore, not from the standpoint of their usefulness as an introduction to *Materia Medica*, but from an entirely different point of view, that these various sciences are now regarded in medical education.

Since the discovery that many diseases to which flesh is heir are due to the penetration of the body by minute plants or animals, the natural history of these forms the chapters of Botany and Zoology of greatest interest to the Pathologist, and he must be prepared by introductory studies for the full appreciation of these, for they lead him far afield in Vegetable and Animal Biology.

Again, Human Anatomy and Physiology form only a part of Biology, and in order to realize how the part is related to the whole it is desirable that the student should examine for himself types of the great groups of plants and animals. Especially does this seem necessary with regard to Anatomy, for the structures and development of the human body only becomes intelligible in the light of these of the other vertebrates, and the student who has laid to heart the great principles of Comparative Anatomy and Embryology has a key to decipher peculiarities of structure which will never fail him. I would urge that in every case the student should gain some knowledge of general anatomy by the careful dissection of some small animal which he has entirely in his own charge before he proceeds to the particular study of the human body. It can be recommended on the ground of cheapness and convenience, but, above all, it involves the weapon of comparison which is so suggestive and far reaching in its results.

I need not stop to indicate the changed point of view with regard to the usefulness of Chemistry and of Physics in medical education. When the student is asked to perform in the physiological laboratory experiments involving complicated