

patients once we gain their confidence and inspire them with hope, the battle is won.

And lastly, from the day the student enters the hospital until graduation he should study under skilled supervision the action of the few great drugs. Which are they? I am not going to give away my list. A story is told that James Jackson when asked which he considered the greatest drug, replied: "Opium, mercury, antimony, and Jesuit's bark, they were those of my teacher, Jacob Holyoke." "Yes," replied his interlocutor, "and they were those of Holyoke's master, James Douglas, in the early part of the 18th century." Mine is a much longer one! The student should follow most carefully the action of those drugs the pharmacology of which he has worked out in the laboratory. He should be sent out from the hospital knowing thoroughly how to administer ether and chloroform. He should know how to handle the various preparations of opium. Each ward should have its little case with the various preparations of the ten or twelve great drugs and when the teachers talk about them he should be able to show the preparations. He should study with special care the action of digitalis on the circulation in cases of heart disease. He should know its literature from Withering to Cushney. I would take it as the typical drug for the study of the history of therapeutics—the popular phase, as illustrated by the old woman who with it cured the principal of Brasenose—the empirical stage introduced by Withering in his splendid contribution—a model of careful clinical work of which every senior student should know; and the last stage, the scientific study of the drug which he will already have made in the pharmacological laboratory. He should day after day personally give syphilitic baby inunctions of mercury; he should give deep injections of calomel and he should learn the history of the drug from Paracelsus to Fournier. He should know everything relating to the iodides and the bromides, and should present definite reports on cases in which he has used them. He must know the use of the important purgatives and he should have a thorough acquaintance with all forms of enemata. He should know cinchona historically, its derivatives chemically, and its action practically. He should study the action of the nitrites with the blood pressure apparatus and he should over and over again have tested for himself the action, or the absence of action, of strychnia, alcohol, and other drugs supposed to have a stimulating action on the heart and blood vessels. While I would, on the one hand, imbue him with the firmest faith in a few drugs, "the friends he has and their adoption tried," on the other hand, I would encourage in him a keenly skeptical attitude towards the pharmacopœia as a whole; ever remembering Benjamin Franklin's shrewd remark that "he is the best doctor who knows the worthlessness of the most medicines." You may well say this is a heavy contract and one