

unknown, and as for the course of the fibres in the brain and the spinal cord, they were a mystery. Physiology was not much better. The college possessed *one* microscope and I remember well waiting my turn for over an hour to see the circulation of the blood in the frog's foot. Sometimes, towards the end of the session, we had a day when we took turns to look at about a dozen imported microscopic slides of the various tissues.

In my student days and for some time afterwards, the cause and origin of phthisis created much dispute and acrimonious discussion. The discovery of the tubercle bacillus by Koch, followed by experiments with tuberculin soon cleared the atmosphere and settled the question of the origin of the disease and its contagiousness. Koch's discovery was followed by many others, and new fields of investigation were opened and much light thrown upon the cause of disease. Of course this phase went to extremes and everybody was discovering bacilli. One was discovered in old age, another in fracture of the leg and so on, but the knowledge of the bacillary origin of disease affords us some hope that in time to come remedies may be found which will abolish certain troubles which at present afflict the human animal and others. *Materia Medica* was of the most ancient character, though dragon's teeth, powdered skull and mummy were not in the list of drugs. Still we heard a good deal about musk and castoreum, antimony and ipecac, cassia and squills, tragacanth and gum acacia, coccus and Spanish fly. Now we have firms of manufacturing druggists who not only put up beautiful preparations of various drugs in a portable and palatable form, but they kindly tell us what to use them for, and how to use them. We shall soon have our drugs given in the streets perhaps from "penny-in-the-slot" machines. We had some very good bedside teaching from men like the late Dr. Howard who was a born clinical teacher. We spent considerable time in the hospitals picking up what crusts we could from the attending physicians, and making out the rest for ourselves. The clinical examinations, like the clinic, were conducted in the hospital, I admit, but certainly not at the bedside. Now, all this is changed, and any one who wishes practical instruction in any subject is able to get it in well equipped laboratories. Your opportunities are great, Gentlemen, and see that you take proper advantage of them. Much is in the womb of the future, great discoveries by which disease will be arrested, much diminished, or abolished altogether, are in the air. We are in a progressive age, and one which is teeming with interest. God grant that our brains will keep pace with what it is necessary to learn, so that we may not be left behind in the rapid march of science. I trust that this great University will retain its place in the van which it has gained by hard work and perseverance, and that it will never lag behind. In the hands of the younger generation, your hands, Gentlemen, is the lamp of scientific