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RECENT PATHOLOGICAL STUDIES OF THE BLOOD.*

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THE important and constantly growing branch of medicine which deals with the prevention and aids to the cure of disease, depends no less upon signs for tracking the dependence of one event upon another as the essence of indicative signs. All the efficient measures for the preservation of health, whether by individuals or committees, rests upon the exact knowledge of the natural cause of diseases. The fact is, disease may be defined as the reaction of the human organism under conditions which caused its destruction. In the course of these events there is one aspect of scientific medicine so important that it must be given due consideration—that is, the necessity of experiments for the progress of pathology and through it for the prevention and cure of disease.

It requires no argument to convince the most egotistical practitioner who is the least acquainted with the principles of indicative signs, that experiments are no less necessary than observations. In physiological and chemical laboratories it is obviously and universally acted upon. These methods are indispensable for the progress of animal and vegetable philosophy and to the practical application of science known as medicine. Experiments must be carried on in large numbers and by a variety of experiments and under every variety of conditions in order to become valuable. The tendency of some to retard or abolish experimental work is

*Read at the Meeting of the Canadian Medical Association at Ottawa, September, 1900.