

when, if the right aid be not afforded the case must be lost. It enables you to staunch life's current in its wasteful flow; to rid the air-pipe of the struggler for breath from its foreign body; and in countless other ways to prove the friend of distressed humanity.

Marvel not that such a science, such an art, should be richly strewed with encomiums. Let me read you two or three. One of the oldest says: "Honor a physician with the honor due unto him." "The skill of the physician shall lift up his head, and in the sight of great men he shall be in admiration." "Give place to the physician; let him not go from thee, for thou hast need of him." Among the Romans, Cicero was exuberant in his praises of the profession. According to him "nothing brings man nearer to the Gods than in giving health to his fellow creatures." And in more modern times Dr. Johnson, the leviathan of English literature, thus beautifully records the memory of a practitioner.

"When fainting nature call'd for aid
 "And hovering death prepared the blow,
 "His vigorous remedy displayed
 "The power of art without the show.
 "In misery's darkest cavern known
 "His useful care was ever nigh
 "Where hopeless anguish pour'd his groan
 "And lonely want retired to die."

These are a few of the inducements that prevail to urge you to attain to the object before you. The path is made easy in proportion to the thoroughness of your previous education. Where that has been liberal it the best preparation to future study. The higher the preliminary training the more easily will you acquire your professional learning, and the more surely will it be remembered. When possible a Collegiate course in arts should be added to the instruction of the Grammar and High School. The benefit conferred is not merely the grasp of a larger fund of knowledge, but also the better culture of the mental faculties, whereby knowledge will be more efficiently apprehended, retained, and turned to profit. The tentacula by which it is secured will be more expanded, effective and polished. Graduates in arts sooner, therefore, be able to acquire the profession sooner than others, and upon the belief that such is the case they are granted the benefit of one year off from the four, which in other cases must be spent in the study of medicine. And while urging the advantages of the highest preliminary education permit me to point to the superior opportunities this University affords to those in search of such a gain; and also permit me to add that they are opportunities for which in a great measure the Dominion is indebted to our learned Principal, whose successful labors in elevating education among us, and promot-

ing its diffusion in its varied departments have won for him the gratitude of all by whom they can be appreciated.

Once entered upon the study of medicine act out the note of Lucretius, "a falling drop at last will cave a stone." Avoid the mistake of attempting too much. The celerity that makes the ocean cable or circular saw valuable will mar the student. Impatience is one of the giants he has to war with. The last lecture, the capping day, the start in life, the first fee—all seem so far off that the desire is to draw them nearer—to shorten time and pile on studies. A forcing system is apt to be instituted; the most jejune compendium, the most condensed notes, are most pondered. Such a plan may help to pass an examination, but it will fail in after life. What is got by it will be like snow, quickly gathered and quickly melted away. In winter you may not have time for much more, but in summer you have, and then your reading should extend to the best modern authors on important subjects, and your time be largely spent in the Hospitals. Your memory is to be the infirmary, from the resources of which your patients are to be treated, *secundum artem*, and therefore you cannot too richly store its cells. Depend upon it a year or so more, when this is the object, will not eventually be regretted. In my time it was not unusual to study five years; and when I look across the almost quarter of a century that has lapsed since my five ended I have no regret because they were so many.

Again:

"Like an inverted cone
 "Wants the proper base to stand upon,"

do not invert the order of your studies. Another error to be shunned is to study the final branches before the primary. It is the loss of method, and that is a cause of imperfection; even haste is here no excuse. Though these be the days of electric speed and steam force, yet in their haste there is method. The telegraph message or river propeller ran their course in order; so, whatever be the haste to get through medicine, the student should go, like them, right straight through his course in the proper way without either slip or skip. Get such an acquaintance with the rudiments, that they shall be the firm scaffolding or frame of the edifice you are to surround and fill in with all that will complete its structure. Undoubtedly you will have knotty things to master, but be not faint hearted; what others have accomplished you can achieve. They were just as raw and verdant at the start. But they won the victory in time, by constant application, diligence.