

tunity to become dressers and clinical clerks in the Hospital. The summer after your first session will not be too soon, in my opinion, if you have been at all diligent. As dressers, you will learn the minor surgical operations of cupping, bleeding, bandaging, &c., and acquire a dexterity in their performance which practice can alone impart, &c.; and if you neglect the opportunity while students, you will deeply regret it when obliged to set the first fracture, in your own practice. Another duty, not less important, yet apt to be neglected, is the duty of becoming clinical clerks. The careful investigation of the history and symptoms of a sick person the daily examination of the patient, the noting of the symptoms as they vary from day to day, the record of the effect of remedies, is one of the best modes of acquiring information of the disease under observation and the influence of treatment over it. A well reported case of disease I regard as evidence of high qualifications in the reporter. He must have cultivated highly his powers of observing and describing symptoms, and must have attained no inconsiderable acquaintance with special diseases and the action of remedies, and must have acquired much tact in dealing with human character and a judicial mind in the examination of human testimony. I would advise you to endeavour from the beginning of your pupilage to acquire a facility in the employment of the various physical means and instruments—with which modern science has enriched the resources of our art. They are somewhat numerous, but amongst the most important may be mentioned—auscultation and percussion, the use of the microscope, laryngoscope, ophthalmoscope, thermometer, and the application of chemistry to the rough analysis of the blood, urine, expectoration, and other secretions. Wonderful progress has been made in the detection and discrimination of diseases of the heart and lungs since percussion and auscultation were first practised. It is now a matter of history, and moreover you will soon be convinced of the value of these means of investigation in the Hospital, and I trust in this lecture room. The microscope too has established its reputation as a means of detecting the nature of abnormal conditions of the blood and urine, the nature of the matters ejected from the stomach, &c. Of more recent acquisition is the laryngoscope and ophthalmoscope, but their novelty is no measure of their utility. The former has already enabled the practitioner to see diseases of the larynx and wind pipe, whose existence was only dubiously inferred, or not even suspected; and the latter has made known a long list of structural changes in the living eye, which had not even been discovered in the eye removed from the body. Nor is the ophthalmoscope limited in its application to the detection of diseases of the eye, for the interesting fact has lately been determined that it will frequently reveal altera-