

As regards the study of medicine, I will lay down the following maxims for your guidance.

1. Do not attend too many classes.
2. Be methodical in the planning of your time, and punctual in carrying out whatever plans you have formed. By this means you will soon become trained to work and able to accomplish much more in the same time than the man who works by fits and starts.
3. Endeavour to master thoroughly the subjects treated of, in the classes you attend. Take notes and follow the lectures by reading in the best text books. Nothing is so uninteresting as half learning a subject. You do not become interested till you begin to comprehend it.

The first classes you should attend are botany, anatomy, chemistry, physiology and materia medica. They, as already explained, form the basis of all medical knowledge, and should therefore be at once *done*. *Anatomy* is the most important; it is an immense subject, and to the beginner proverbially dry, but becomes interesting as he advances and examines the parts for himself. Hence, so soon as you have acquired the necessary elementary knowledge, engage in dissection, of which you cannot in my opinion do too much.

I would strongly urge on you who are just commencing the study, the importance of a thorough knowledge of the fundamental branches referred to, and exhort you who are more advanced with your studies, above all, to cultivate clinical medicine, surgery and obstetrics in the wards of the Hospitals. The principles and practice of these branches will be fully explained in the respective classes, but it is in the Hospitals you will see them carried into practice. It will avail you but little to know what the various physical signs may indicate, unless you can recognize them when you hear them. This you will learn to do in the Hospital where you will also see under treatment a variety of medical and surgical diseases.

Finally, gentlemen, let me offer you a word of council as regards your general conduct. Formerly the medical student was looked upon as a rowdying, rollicking, disreputable specimen of the genus *homo*, who was hardly responsible for his actions. In this respect things are altogether altered, and he is now held to be as responsible for his actions as any other sane member of society. Therefore, endeavour by gentlemanly conduct and hard work to maintain his reputation as well as that of this University, and thus become worthy members of our ancient and honorable profession.