

at my office and ask: We understand you are a children's specialist, and I would say: Specialist? No such thing. If I am not good enough as a doctor, go somewhere else. And somewhere else they would go—sometimes to my own college clinic.

A specimen of what has often been called a specialist was Carl Gerhardt (1833-1902), since 1871, when I met him first, my friend until he died three years ago. He published, in and after 1861, several editions of a wonderfully learned, at the same time practical and concise text-book on the diseases of children. He was the editor of the great manual of diseases of children which appeared in 7 volumes, 1877, and during a course of nearly twenty years, and placed pediatrics in Germany on a sound footing. Thus he was the predecessor of Keating in America and Grancher and Comby in France. If anybody could be called a specialist in the diseases of children, his was the claim. But he was the general clinician in Jena, in Würzburg, where he succeeded Bamberger, and in Berlin in the chair vacated by the death of Frerichs. He wrote on the location of the diaphragm, the diseases of the pleura, and of the larynx, on croup, and many other subjects. One of the best books on auscultation and percussion in any language is his. He was, perhaps, the most expert laryngologist of Germany, and was the first to diagnose, while an extirpation was still possible, the cancer in the larynx of the unfortunate Crown Prince of Germany. He was a perfect chemist; the iron chloride test of glycosuria is named for him, not by him—for he had the righteous simplicity characteristic of a really great man—and was none of the strenuous gasometers replete with pompousness, promises, and inconsistencies, whom we cannot avoid meeting in society or in politics. He was a physician looking for the ends of medicine, which is the cure and prevention of disease. The recommendation of sodium borate for adiposity—gentler and less dangerous than the much abused thyroid preparations—is among his last publications. Facing the preface of my *Therapeutics of Infancy and Childhood* there is this dictum of Gerhardt's: "Healing is a fruit that grows on the tree of knowledge. No rational therapy without diagnosis. First examine, then judge, then treat." He was the ideal scientific physician and teacher. It is true, gentlemen, there is, perhaps, nobody here who will ever be a Gerhardt, but there is no one who should be without the highest ideal. Ideals are not for those only whose heads tower above ours, and the very soles of whose feet seem to walk over the clouds, but for all of us who take pride in admiring great examples and trying to follow them.

The same year (1902) which deprived the world and me of Gerhardt, removed three other great physicians. Adolf Kussmaul, I never met personally; Hugo von Ziemssen I knew when a student in Greifswald