

fixed with rapture upon a needle which he holds in his hand. On the point of that needle is an almost invisible speck. The man is Laennec, and the thing on the needle tip is a miliary tubercle. By this discovery stood revealed the borders of a new country and the apparent seed of a disease which had sapped mysteriously the youth of the world. In another realm of romance are the pathfinder, the man who tracks down his enemy with the instinct of a hound, the supernatural detective who, creeping from clue to clue, pieces together the fragments of a crime. There are few detective stories, however, that can surpass the true tale of the tracking down of the miscreant malaria, after many years of astute watchfulness. For all time this bringer of disease has been an evil genius, a vampire of the marsh that fed upon its victims in the dead of night. Now, as you know, the ghost is laid, and the mystery is reduced to a few cells which can be kept in a bottle and grown as tamely as a gardener rears cabbage. In the history of medicine, too, are records which lack little of the spirit of the ancient legend. The legend of St. George, the patron saint of England, is perhaps too crude to more than outlast the interest of the nursery. Yet it is a gallant story of a dragon that breathed death and destruction from a mouth of flames that, defying all champions, finally fell before the spear of the English saint. Yet there was just such a dragon on the earth before the advent of aseptic surgery, a dragon whose very touch was decay and dissolution, who, standing like a shadow behind the man of healing, made mockery of his efforts and turned his good intentions into ill. It was a surgeon from Scotland who slew this terror, and his achievement was infinitely more wonderful than that blazoned by the allsubduing spear of the immortal saint.

#### SOME OF THE CONDITIONS NECESSARY.

In enumerating the factors which make up success in life, one is early met with the assurance that such success depends largely upon money, upon influence and social position, upon good fortune, and above all upon the possession of genius. The lack of these supposed advantages is apt to chill the ardor of some who are aiming at success, and to provide excuses for others who decline the attempt as hopeless. With regard to the financial qualification, I have no hesitation in saying that ample, or even moderate, means at the outset of a career not only fail to constitute an element in professional advancement, but are an actual hindrance to a sturdy independent progress. It will be claimed that a man with money is better able to devote his energies to original research inasmuch as he is spared the unproductive drudgery involved in earning his daily bread. I do not consider that that drudgery is unproductive, and I have often noticed that the much extolled leisure of the man of means is apt to be devoted to original research in such pursuits as those