

armed with a sum total of about a hundred dozen lectures, loads of puzzling questions, and reams of examination papers. There are weeks and months of patient toil in the laboratory, in the dissecting-room, and in the wards of the hospital; there are ponderous volumes of chemistry, anatomy, physiology, and materia medica to be stamped almost word for word upon the tablets of your memories, mere outworks as it were to the stronger fortresses of medicine and surgery. Remember that each will be judged by his merits without fear or favor, and that by men who have learned to know almost your inmost thoughts. As you become more or less familiar with each subject in turn, you will discover that each professor seems to regard his own subject as the one of paramount importance. This may be a weakness of human nature, but right or wrong it is always met with in every institution where knowledge is imparted by routine teaching. It is just possible that sometimes this peculiarity may be too distinctive a feature, and lead to spending more time over certain studies than would be the case if we could have everything equally balanced in the order of practical necessity. For my own part, knowing as I do the immense amount of work to be gone over in our medical curriculum, I should think twice before asking a student to crowd his overwrought brain with the thousand details that can be of no future use and are only crammed into the head for purposes of examination, to be studiously and resentfully forgotten as soon as it is over. There are myriads of important facts that should be stored away for future use, and these are what every student wants to grasp and retain. When the corn is cheap and plentiful who would be burdened with husks? If I were to have my student life over again, I think I could learn more in less time by searching more carefully for leading principles and striving to associate ideas. It is thus that knowledge can be retained and made available at a moment's notice when suddenly called for. Most of you will ultimately be thrown upon your own resources, and will find the physical welfare of many fellow-creatures depending upon your skill and knowledge. Most of you will become enrolled in the ranks of general practitioners,