

tible of the most diverse, fascinating, and instructive experimental inquiry. In consequence, the position of Pathology in the curriculum and its relative value as an educational subject has undergone a material change. From a brief course of didactic lectures with diagrams and post-mortem demonstrations, confined often to but one year in the course, we now find this teaching extending over two, and in some cases three years, and occupying in the neighbourhood of 250 hours. Under competent direction we find it taught from the general and special aspects and on all sides are impressed by the elaborate equipment provided for its practical teaching in the laboratories and mortuaries.

The outcome of this development demonstrates the wisdom of all that has been done to foster and encourage it. We are now familiar not only with the anatomic alterations peculiar to various morbid processes, but in many instances with the agents by which they are caused, and in a few cases with the mechanism through which the living causative factors operate.

We have discovered that many diseases to which man is liable may be reproduced in susceptible lower animals more or less faithfully, and in this manner it is possible to observe the phenomena of disease from their inception to their termination.

Important as the advance may be it is not yet satisfactory. It is necessary to completion that we know the intimate mechanism by which living micro-organisms cause such changes. That the alterations of structure are due to detrimental substances associated with or eliminated by the living parasites is certain, but as yet our knowledge of them is very limited. We know they are present but we know little or nothing of their nature or the manner in which their presence results in the destruction of tissue or the interruption of normal functions. Here again presents a modern problem demanding altogether a new chemistry, or possibly a new application of familiar reactions.

Not less manifest is the influence of Bacteriology upon the development of another phase of modern medicine. As the clinician and the pathologist pursued their several lines of investigation, it soon became obvious that a great many common pathological processes result from bacterial invasion, and that when this invasion has occurred two important facts are apparent, viz:—first it is questionable if, by therapeutic means, as ordinarily understood, it is possible to check the course of events by destroying the exciting agents in the infected body and, second, that in the course of many such infections, the exciting agent is eliminated from the body in a living condition.

Reflect for a moment upon these facts, for their significance is far reaching. If the patient cannot be restored to health by the disinfec-