

at the bedside. Herein lies the strength of this.

During the eighteen months that the treatment of phthisis has been carried out on these principles, excluding for statistical purposes only those in whom the tubercular lesions had involved other organs than the lungs, there have been *no deaths*. Patients who, at the time of commencing treatment, a year and a half ago, were confined to the sick room with hectic, emaciation, night sweats, and physical evidences of cavities of considerable size are to-day and have been for the past twelve months, following their usual occupations with a fair measure of health.

1. Brunton Pharmacology, Therapeutics and Materia Medica. Third Edition.
2. Fothergill's Hand-Book of Treatment. Second American Edition.
3. Ringer's Hand-Book of Therapeutics.
4. Brunton (*idem*).
5. Prof. Parkes, *Lancet*, May 23rd and 30th, 1874.
6. Merk's Bulletin, July, 1892.
7. Leaming, Heart and Lungs, 1893.
8. Brunton (*idem*).
9. Ringer (*idem*).
10. Science of Human Life.
11. Dr. Leven in Good Health.
12. Braithwaite, Vol, LXXXV.
13. *Idem*. 2709 St. Catherine Street. MONTREAL, July 15th, 1893.

THE REAL REWARDS OF MEDICINE.

The Valedictory Address Delivered at the Commencement of the Jefferson Medical College, May 2, 1893.

BY W. W. KEEN, M.D., LL.D.,

Professor of the Principles of Surgery and of Clinical Surgery.

GENTLEMEN OF THE GRADUATING CLASS :

The revolving cycle of the passing years makes it to-day my pleasing duty to say a parting word of advice, of caution, and of cheer to you. And first, let me say the word of cheer; not only because it is the pleasantest to be spoken, but because in

your earlier years of practice you will need it far more than any other word I could speak to you. I am sure that the public do not understand, nor do they appreciate, not only the many years of study before a young doctor can even begin to be self-supporting, but the many years of discouragement, with an empty purse and accumulating bills, which beset his early professional life. Should he desire to enter upon the profession *thoroughly* equipped, it means, first, the years of preparation in the common schools, from seven to eighteen; then four years in college, then three, or, as soon will be the case, four years of study in the Medical School, then at least a year in a Hospital, and, if possible, a year or two abroad. In other words, twenty-one years of study are practically what is required, completely to fit a man even to begin to earn his living by the practice of medicine in any of its branches.

And in his earlier years the doctor is paid in many cases far less than the pittance which is bestowed even on the humble day-laborer. I remember very well one of the brightest young men in the profession, who had all the advantages I have just described, and who, some time after having "hung out his shingle," came to me greatly discouraged, and said, "I think I shall have to give up the practice of medicine." "Why so, Doctor?" said I in surprise, knowing his ability and future promise. "Because," said he, "I do not think I can earn enough to support myself and my wife" (for he was already married), "and I do not wish to be dependent all my life on my father." "How much have you earned by your practice since your graduation?" I asked. He replied: "It is now seven months since I opened my office, and I have received exactly \$2.50."

In other words, in 210 days he had received a little more than one cent a day! And in my own personal experience, when I had been in practice for five years, in the