

States—the condition in which the medical student is debarred from entering the wards and there learning to study cases at first-hand.

I do not hesitate to say that it is just this studying of cases in the wards which has been the making of McGill, which has given our graduates their strong and assured position whenever they have gone into the States.

That I should dwell with so much force upon the value of ward work may surprise some of you, but you must not go away from here with the idea that I see no virtue outside of pathology, or that I believe that it is only by pathology that you will enter the heaven of good practice, of a practice which is honourable and ennobling, because the individual honestly feels that he consistently does his best. Rather, if I may digress for a moment, I strive to keep ever before me that my object as professor of pathology here, is not to train up a school of pathologists but to teach my subject to you who are to be practitioners, in such a way that thereby you shall be sounder practitioners; to teach you not the minutiae of individual diseased processes, but the principles which underlie those processes. In short, to train you in medical thought so that approaching a case in your student days, as in after life, you should be able to some extent to realise the meaning of the symptoms and the lesions which may be present, shall understand their relationship, shall be able to picture to yourself the disturbed condition in one or other organ underlying and causing the outward manifestations. My object, the object of all of us, is to aid in your development, not into automata, which happening upon a symptom or set of symptoms, immediately fit a sesquipedalian designation to the same and forthwith turn either to the recesses of your brain or to the last number of say, the *Muskegon Practical Therapist*, published by those distinguished wholesale druggists, Stark, Merkley & Co., to find therein the latest drug which is said to “touch the spot”—but into reasoning thoughtful physicians, who in the study of their cases as in the treatment of the same, employ *succus cerebri* as the first and greatest article of *materia medica*. And if at times it may seem to you that I go over deeply into certain apparently very secondary phenomena, don't think, gentlemen, that it is the phenomena themselves that I am after, but the principles they illustrate or elucidate.

And this—if I may continue to digress—I will say for pathology, giving you an indication of its value to the student and the practicing physician. Take the great medical men of Great Britain who have died within the last few years—the giants of their generation—men who have overtopped all their contemporaries, and what do you find? Well, gentlemen, it is to say the least instructive, that one and all, Andrew Clark, Paget, Roberts, Wilkes—and I could extend the list—at a time