

The graphic study of heart affections is but one of many clinical and pathological subjects which has forged ahead of late years. While a medical man can ill afford to neglect the advance of a subject in which he practises, he may act, in a too vigorous pursuit of one branch of medical science, to the detriment of his knowledge in other directions. A universal and detailed acquaintanceship with medical science as it exists to-day is no longer possible, but it behoves all practitioners to grasp new principles and to be aware of their influence upon the care of patients afflicted with common maladies.

If I am asked whether it is essential that a practitioner of general medicine should be trained to record the movements of the several heart chambers, I am inclined to reply that the acquisition of the special manipulative skill and the necessary experience, which the obtaining and accurate interpretation of graphic records involves, entails too great an expenditure of time and energy adequately to repay him or the patients he serves. And my reply is dictated by the belief that most of those disturbances of the