

see the world of medicine before he settles down, he will certainly have pangs of regret if he has allowed his matriculation French and German to slip away from him during his undergraduate days. Is it a counsel of perfection to advise him to guard against this in his summer vacation? A little dudgey with a dictionary every day is the secret of acquiring a reading knowledge of these languages sufficient for practical purposes. I do not mean that these languages are necessary for the purpose of getting the very best training in medicine, but a knowledge of them has other conveniences than those above mentioned in a country like ours where many languages meet.

Difficulties of terminology are not the only ones which beset the young student. He has been familiar from his youth with certain weights and measures, that is to say he has a certain hazy familiarity with inches, pints and pounds, but if you ask him how many cubic inches are in a pint, and how many pounds a pint of water weighs, you will generally find him unresponsive. But if he is asked to desert this clumsy system of weights and measures for a new and delightfully easy one, where a liter always contains a 1000 cubic centimeters, and where each cubic centimeter of water weighs a gramme, you will find that he is aggrieved, and that he is constantly thinking back to his familiar scales. He may have learned at school that a meter is 39.37 inches, but if you ask him to give you an idea of how long 500 centimeters is he will pull out a pencil and do a sum for you. Something else however is wanted; he should be in a position to call up an immediate mental image of 50 cc. or 50 mm. or 50 gr., and to do this he must constantly be measuring and weighing and estimating; he must have learned for himself how many centimeters are in a coffee cup or a tea-spoon, and to express the lengths and widths of familiar objects in the metric system. He always carries about with him some fairly reliable measures, for he can adjust his span to some 20 cm., and he will generally be able to command a cent and a five-cent piece to serve as measures of 25 and 15 mm. respectively. Let me assure you who have not yet got on such terms of familiarity with the metric system, that you will not regret some leisure moments spent in guessing