

give up and return to practice. If anyone should hint to these people that they are not competent to practice surgery on account of lack of training, they feel very indignant and they say, 'Why, you had to learn. You killed a lot of patients learning this.'

'Because we were obliged to do this in order to open the path for the future, in order to save life, and to lessen suffering for coming generations, that does not say that every Tom, Dick and Harry has got to learn this over again, has got to make those same mistakes we have made. We made the mistakes but have tried constantly to teach the rising generation of surgeons how to avoid the mistakes.'

"The man who has never done any mechanical work, or who was not raised on the farm, or who was not allowed to make a little sleigh or a baseball bat when he was a boy, or who never worked around in the garden, or played ball or the piano, or who never made pills in a drug store, the man who had never *developed a mechanical hand from his earliest childhood*, will never be a good surgeon. The man who simply studied all his lifetime, and whose father was kind enough to buy him everything from a wagon to a book, who was never taught to draw and to cultivate an artistic eye or to develop the sense of symmetry and proportion, *that man will never be a surgeon*; it is not in the nature of things.

"If I read, for instance, in a cheap medical journal an editorial something like this: 'We've quit sending. We do our own surgery, having to provide for our own wife, our own children, ourselves. If we don't know how to do an operation we'll go to the post-graduate schools and learn how, and charge accordingly. If we haven't the skill that comes from experience, we'll get it just as the professor got it, by doing the operation at every opportunity till we become adepts.'

"And who can blame us if we determine to do our own work ourselves? Are we not equally M.D.'s, with equal privileges? This reference of cases to specialists is in many cases unnecessary anyhow. Very often it is simply because the doctor is too busy to attend to the matter himself. But the real remedy is for him to charge enough to make it worth his while to buy books and apparatus, to take special instruction and to do the work.

"Do you have many cases of eye, ear, nose and throat affections? Open your purse-strings. Come to the city and take a post course; buy the apparatus. It will cost you up to \$500, but if you cannot make \$1,000 a year out of the results, you are not much of a business man, and not apt to succeed as a doctor.