

“ that slips in observation are inevitable even with the best trained faculties, that errors in judgment must occur in the practice of an Art which is largely the balancing of probabilities ;—start, I say, with this attitude of mind, and mistakes will be acknowledged and regretted ; but instead of a slow process of self-deception, with ever-increasing inability to recognize truth, you will draw from your errors the very lessons which may enable you to avoid their repetition. . . . The truth that lowliness is young ambition’s ladder is hard to grasp, and when accepted, harder to maintain. It is so difficult to be still amidst bustle, to be quiet amidst noise ; yet, “ es bildet ein Talent sich in der Stille ” alone, in the calm life necessary to continuous work for a high purpose. The spirit abroad at present in this country, is not favourable to this Teutonic view, which galls the quick apprehension and dampens the enthusiasm of the young American. All the same it is true, and irksome at first though the discipline may be, there will come a time when the very fetters in which you chafed shall be a strong defence and your chains a robe of glory.”

But you will be inclined to say, “ We have had enough of the Gospel of Work, it is time we had a little of the Gospel of Play,” and this brings me naturally to discuss the more material side of your existence as students of medicine. At the risk of being very prosaic, let me give you a few words of advice as to the manner of life that is most conducive to the welfare of a student. If you wish to do good work you must have appropriate environment, you must live with a certain degree of comfort and take a reasonable amount of physical exercise. In the much-to-be-regretted absence of a University residence, in which the conditions of existence would be arranged on a proper hygienic basis, you must necessarily fall back on the boarding-house. There are model boarding-houses—and there are others. This city may fairly lay claim to having a “ Latin Quarter ” of its own, but while this is not far behind its Parisian analogue in sordidness, it lacks all of the picturesqueness and attractiveness of the latter. It is poor economy, for the sake of a small saving, to confine oneself in a small not over-clean and dingy room in a dark and dismal street, when relative comfort at least is to be obtained by a trifling extra expenditure.

Murger’s “ Bohemia ” is a most interesting study of one phase of student-life, but his students did no work to speak of, and their sole object seems to have been to amuse themselves in their own peculiar way, and as regards the material needs of life to confine themselves to what he aptly calls “ the strictly superfluous.” The main desiderata in a student’s working more or less, in canonical sufficient cubic space