

in the other two branches; and these necessarily depend upon education. He will naturally be the most proficient in these respects who is the most deeply versed in the principles of his profession. For this purpose it fortunately happens that the means which qualify for the one qualify also for the others; and at the bottom of the pedestal, on which the scientific physician may be said to stand, lie the important elementary branches of Anatomy, Chemistry, Therapeutics, and Physiology. These constitute, in the most emphatic sense, the ground-work of medical character. Without a thorough knowledge of these, no one can be considered an accomplished physician. Like in Mechanics, they constitute the *powers* which lie at the bottom of, and direct, all his subsequent proceedings. While Anatomy teaches him the different parts of the human system, and their relative dependance upon one another, Physiology tells of the functions with which each different part, each separate organ, is endowed. By an intimate acquaintance with these parts, and the due exercise of their various functions, we become enabled to detect and trace out deviations from their healthy condition; and a knowledge of the *Materia Medica*, with Therapeutics and Chemistry, enables us to select and modify, by combination, if necessary, the remedial agents which, from experience we have learned, are capable of rectifying these morbid alterations or deviations from the healthy condition of these organs. These various deviations from healthy conditions are grouped together in accordance with some peculiar, some dominant characteristic, and constitute the different classes of diseases which in Medicine and Surgery are studied under their respective pathologies. But, convenient as this classification or grouping of diseases may be for the purposes of study (and indeed without some such system it would be an impossibility to acquire a thorough knowledge of them), yet in the field of actual labour you will frequently find yourselves at fault; that diseases, owing to a multitude of differently-acting causes,