

are obliged, every now and then, to discard, as useless, knowledge formerly acquired, to forget and throw away the debris of exploded theories, and the dry and useless husks of an obsolete practice. We see this illustrated every day in connection with the pathology of inflammation, of pulmonary consumption, of tubercle generally, and of tumours, etc. So the surgeon has had to unlearn the meaningless technique which, before the days of Lister, made him almost ridiculous. There is one great charm in the study of medicine which you will appreciate more fully as you go on, namely, its constant variety. Besides, it is so many-sided, bringing us into contact with so many other branches of human knowledge. .

During your earlier years of practice you will have ample time to write up your cases and occasionally to publish them. The routine of general practice always affords many cases worth reporting and commenting on. Attend all meetings of medical associations held within a reasonable distance of your homes. There you will brush against men of varied experience, and will be afforded an opportunity of ventilating your own. It is in such assemblies that you learn to marshal your facts and to speak concisely.

Of late years it has become the custom—and a very good custom it is for those having the leisure and the wherewithal—to travel abroad for a time in order to prosecute their studies in a general or special way. I believe this is much preferable to beginning the studies abroad, because, on the whole, it is better that each man should receive his medical training in the country (meaning with us the continent) in which he intends to practice. Thus he gets to understand the constitution and habits of the people among whom he intends to spend his life, and can more easily adapt himself to circumstances. One of the greatest charms in connection with foreign study is that of meeting the giants in the profession of whom one is constantly hearing. Many graduates commit the error of limiting their travel to Great Britain. The great teaching centres on the continent, more especially those of Paris, Berlin and Vienna, should also receive a visit. Here unlimited facilities are offered for study