

which he must be familiar, but he must be sufficiently personally familiar with investigation to be able to interpret the results of others in the light of his own experience in the laboratory.

The German poet Goethe has some lines which well embody the necessity for practical experience before the work of others can be fully appropriated by us. He says:—"That which thou hast inherited from thy forefathers thou must work for in order to possess."

Indeed you will find that hard work is necessary to secure such possessions. I hope you may all have the opportunity of reading the admirable address which Prof. Osler delivered to our students in Toronto on the subject of work as the key to success.

One of the first lessons to be learned in regard to such work is that difficulties have to be surmounted, not skipped.

Montaigne in one of his essays says:—"If in reading I fortune to meet with any difficult points I fret myself about them, but after I have given them a charge or two I leave them as I found them. Should I earnestly plod upon them I should lose both time and myself, for I am a skipping wit." But in your studies you must avoid this skipping wit. Some of you will learn more easily from the printed book, others from the spoken word, but both must bring the difficulties you encounter and which you find to be invincible without assistance, even after you have manfully wrestled with them, to your teachers, who will only be too glad to see your interest in your work.

One of the difficulties which the young medical student encounters at the outset of his work is the language of science—the flood of new terms which threatens to submerge him. He must make up his mind to refuse to be submerged, and with this end in view he must systematically devote a portion of each day to the revision and mastery of his new vocabulary. No sooner has he begun the study of his bones than he meets with words like *synchondrosis*, *perichondrium*, *endochondral*, etc. My advice to him is to find out exactly the meaning and the origin of such terms (the origin because his duty as a biologist is always to be looking to the origin and development