

He recollected when a patient was under daily observation for weeks, sometimes, before resorting to the knife, and that too after long years of experience. To-day it sometimes happens that men of extremely limited experience are not satisfied if they cannot decide, in the twinkling of an eye, the nature of a malady that the more experienced might diagnose, or they themselves with time. The knife should never be used to unravel the enigma, however puzzling at the moment to the understanding.

*Specialism* was the outgrowth of the same period and the legitimate consequences of a rapid advance in various departments of the healing art. But while he recognized its great advantages, he thought that individualizing and specializing had, in the period referred to gone almost too far in surgery, as, in his opinion, it had in medicine. He did not dread the work of the specialist who had prepared himself for his particular pursuit by a study of the whole body, and of the functions of its several parts, but he did dread the manipulations of any one who hastily referred all disturbances in the economy to a disturbance of a part within his special occupancy.