

branches to the beginner will prove tedious and irksome, and you will often feel discouraged; but persevere, be not discouraged; a mastery of these subjects will teach you the dependence and relationship the one to the other, and in due time you will be able to put into practice what you have learned in the lecture-room, and the investigation and treatment of disease will soon be appreciated, and what was at one time a hardship to you will afford you pleasure and gratification. It is most important early to acquire the art of doing what you may at the time consider uninteresting work in a serious and determined way.

The first year or two of the student's life is the most momentous time of his whole student career; if he wastes that time it is an opportunity lost forever, he can never recall the wasted hours. If, on the other hand, he avails himself of the opportunities placed within his grasp, he lays a foundation which will ever prove invaluable to him; and when he passes from the classroom to the hospital wards he will never come out of them without having learnt something he never knew before. His future may be either a success or a failure; it rests with himself which it shall be. I am no believer in what is called "luck" or "fortune," but believe every man's success depends on his own steady and persistent labor; his future success is largely under his own control; the truly successful men are those who do their work and do it with all their might. The lazy, procrastinating, waiting man is, with few exceptions, a disappointed man; he waits and waits for something to turn up, but he waits in vain; his life slowly passes away; the opportunity he hoped for never came, and in the sunset of his days he finds himself a disappointed man, his youth spent, his energies dead, his hopes extinguished; he has wasted a life which might and ought to have been better in its success, and yet even then he fails to see he has himself alone to blame. I hope that this may not be the lot of any one before me. If you want to succeed, begin now; let your watchword be "work"; strive with all your might to avail yourself of the opportunities now placed before you, and success will be yours. It is quite true, "The race is not always to the swift or the battle to the strong," that many men possessing more than average ability, yea, even brilliant intellects, have failed, and it is hard sometimes to know the reason why; I think it is because they lacked perseverance, the knowledge of the little things that go to make up the man, perhaps I may call it common-sense.