

on dead matter; and, of course, includes what is usually called physiological, pathological, and sanitary chemistry. All the training which chemistry can afford in the experimental method of inquiry could be given in a chemical laboratory by experiments in medical chemistry, as well as, if not better than by using our present system. In fact, any portion of the field of chemistry does almost equally well as a training ground. In the course given here, the re-actions of the common acids and metals are used for this purpose, not because the information obtained is of value to medical students in particular, nor because that portion of the field of chemistry affords any better subject matter for experiment, but because it is as good a field as any other, and it is a very favourite hunting ground of the Board Examiners.

Apart from laboratory training, what every medical man requires is a clear view of the broad principles of chemistry, that he may intelligently follow advances in medicine made by chemical research, and a limited acquaintance only with the facts of chemistry. A knowledge of two classes of facts is required: first, those which are essential to a perfect understanding of the principles of the science, very few in number, and second, those which bear directly on his profession. It is the first class of facts that should be partially acquired before entering medicine, in order to give both professor and pupil time to dwell on the more congenial, important, and interesting facts that bear directly on the principles of the healing art.

Apart from its value as a means of training the student in those habits of thought especially useful to him in his profession, chemistry has another claim to a high position in a modern medical education—a claim based on what she has shown herself able to do in aiding physiology and pathology in the solution of the fundamental problems of medicine.

Time will not permit me to discuss even the more important advances recently made, and a mere enumeration of the results obtained would be tedious in the extreme. I shall have said enough on this subject when I remind you that although the great powers of the chemical and physical sciences to aid medicine have only recently been appreciated, these sciences, and especially chemistry proper, have shown