

his mother and her family of six children returned to their old home in Norwich. For a while Thomas attended the public school, but soon was called to assist in the support of the family.

He found employment first in a printing office; then in an apothecary's shop; and finally in a book store. Although he remained but six months in each of these situations it is more than probable that his extremely receptive mind was strongly influenced by all of these occupations. He frequently attributed his attention to details in the correction of MS., and his quick and unerring detection of faults in typography, to his experience as a practical printer. His after love of chemistry could not but have been developed if it was not instigated by his surroundings in the second of these situations; and his love of general literature and familiarity with authors doubtless commenced with his opportunity to prow over a collection of miscellaneous books, absorbing their contents in the interval of his active duties, and laying the foundation of that correct expression and pure style which distinguished to the last his spoken and written thoughts. Some of the elements of Dr. Hunt's genius were a life-long habit of attention, an accurate judgment to select out of the assorted impressions received that which was valuable or new, a phenomenal memory in retaining such concepts, and consistency in adopting them to regulate his conduct or modify his ideas. It is therefore not at all incredible that this exceedingly impressionable mind at its most impressionable age may have assimilated both the tastes and the faculties which directed the course of his after life during the short periods of those diverse occupations. This is rendered the more probable from the fact mentioned by Mr. Douglas, that on leaving these three employments to assume the duties of clerk in a not too busy country store, the future Cantab. Doctor kept a skeleton and certain home-made chemical apparatus under the counter for use in the intervals afforded by his commercial duties. He carried on original research in this rural retreat even while mastering the rudiments of chemistry. He visited the sixth annual meeting of the Association of American Geologists and Naturalists held in the geological lecture room of Yale college from Wednesday, April 30th, to Tuesday, May 6, 1845, and was there elected a member of that body. It is interesting to note that in his nineteenth year, at this, the first meeting he attended of the body