

Volumes could be written on the value of recorded experience to the science and art of medicine, but space only permits of a very cursory glance at this phase of the subject. Biblical literature contains many records of the art of healing. In Assyrian, Arabian, Egyptian, Hebrew, Grecian, and Roman myths, traditions, works of art and history, are to be found wondrous records of the healing potency of prayers, and sacrifices to the gods, and of the great virtues in charms and other psychic devices. But, coming to the records of the scientific achievements, and experiences, of the long line of illustrious physicians, who "blazed the way" through the dense masses of ignorance, delusions, dogmas, that confronted the medical pioneer, and what do we find? On nearly every page of historic medicine we have evidence of the beneficent results that have followed from recorded experience. In ancient days, it was a common custom in Egypt to place the patient by the wayside, that he might receive advice from anyone passing by who had experience to relate. The patient, when cured, repaired to a temple, where a record of his case was taken and kept. The attributes of *Æsculapius*, "the God of the Healing Art," acted as an inspiration to many generations of physicians. It is said of Hippocrates, "the Great Father of Scientific Medicine," that his culture, his keen and patient power of observation, accuracy of description and exalted ideals have left their impress deeply stamped on medical literature for all time. Of Galen, it is recorded that such was the high character of his attainments, and of his ideals, that his writings dominated medical thought for more than fifteen centuries.

Now, who could compute the loss to scientific medicine if no written records had been kept during the first eighteen centuries of the Christian Era, of the experience of Linaere, Dubois, Vesalius, Paré, Harvey, Cullen, Morgagni, Hunter, Jenner, and a host of others? Generations yet unborn will render homage to these "immortals," and also to the records of a Morton, Simpson, McDowell, Beaumont, Virchow, Pasteur, Lister, Roenten, Finsen, and to our own lamented comrade, George Peters. The value to the Art and Science of Medicine, of its historical records of experience, can never be estimated, for it will go on increasing as long as disease is allowed to menace the human race.

"VALUE OF RECORDED EXPERIENCE TO THE MEDICAL PROFESSION."

This story is a long and interesting one. The most cursory glance over the pages of the history of medicine is sufficient to