

did not shrink from having inoculation practiced upon her own son and daughter. Let me recommend you to read the *Life and Letters of the brilliant, witty Lady Mary Wortley Montague*. It will open up to you the fascinating account of the discovery and application, the co-relation of cow-pox and small-pox, and the part played in this drama by humble English dairymaids and by Benjamin Jesty, a sturdy English farmer. Benjamin Jesty, from his own observations, and by his own strength of mind, was the first (known) person who introduced cow-pox by inoculation, making the experiment from the cow on his wife and two sons in 1774. For this he was hooted, reviled and stoned, but remained strong and undoubted, living to see another enriched and immortalised (I refer to Dr. Jenner) for carrying out the same principle for which he (Jesty) had been stoned. Jesty's experiment was performed in 1774, Jenner's in 1796, twenty-two years later.

I have only touched upon these notable names in order to point out to you the treasury of fascinating literature and romance surrounding the study of your profession. They may serve to show you how delightfully you may journey, not merely on the beaten tracks, but up and across the pleasanter by-ways of your work.

Did you know that Keats was called "The Apothecary Poet?" It is interesting to learn that this boy-poet, celebrated for his exquisite verse, his immortal "Ode to a Greek Urn," had obtained the qualifications of the Apothecaries' Hall before his twenty-first year, and had acquired technical skill in the minor operations which fell to the hand of a dresser. Is it not fascinating to make a more intimate acquaintance with the personality of those men who have made the science of medicine, the cult of healing that it is to-day? A knowledge of their careers, the struggles and discoveries, the human side of their characters, will do much to quicken your interest in the drier details of your work.

There are notable examples of the intimate relations between medicine and literature, and in the group of literary physicians Sir Thomas Browne stands pre-eminent in the past. His "Religio Medici" is one of the great English classics. The great Dr. Osler to-day, Regius Professor of Medicine in the University of Oxford, pays deep tribute to this great book, and tells us that it has

been his daily companion and help for thirty years.

There is the name of Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, best remembered as the genial author of the "Breakfast Table Series," which to the general reader has obscured Dr. Holmes' fame as the first physician to prove that puerperal fever was contagious. His essay on "The Contagiousness of Puerperal Fever" is a highly valuable contribution to medical science.

These are but a few prominent names of interesting figures in medical history. Read about William Harvey and his discovery of the circulation of the blood; of Sir James Simpson and his discovery of chloroform and its application, and so on. In our day, Dr. Weir Mitchell is as famous for his novels and historical romances as for his professional work and his celebrated "rest cure" treatment of "Americanitis" in its feminine form of "nerves."

Then Sir Frederick Treves' interesting books give intimate sidelights of the personality and culture of King Edward's surgeon. Has it not been jocularly said of Sir Frederick Treves' books that they contain no appendix?

You will find a vast field, broadened and brightened by the labours and personalities of talented men; a field that stretches, gate open, at your hand. You need but enter. You need but to acquire what a philosopher has called "a relish of knowledge." "Get early this relish; this keen joyance in work, with which langour disappears and all shadows of annoyance flee." Get, in a word, enthusiasm; enthusiasm, that talisman of all good work; enthusiasm, a word to be graven on your badges and in your hearts. For I do beseech you to beware of becoming dull and unimaginative. Literature will save you from this. Literature will open to you a magic door leading to illimitable Elysian fields of inspiration and charm.

The reading of good books adds to your resources and makes you potent in many directions. It will rest your nerves after the wearying hours of your work and give you new forms of mental enjoyment; it will equip you with further useful knowledge and will add strength and grace to your character. It will make your days brighter and add to the value of all you do; in a word, "literature enriches every department of life." Read for profit and pleasure; for insight into human nature. Read the me-