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down with considerable decision, then, that the best plan of treating such cases is their complete and speedy removal. The loss of an eye in a child is under any circumstances a very serious one, inasmuch as the further development of the orbit and the growth of the eyelids may be interfered with; but such considerations must be completely outweighed by the thought of the probable consequences of leaving a malignant growth untouched at the only time when interference could do any good.

It is probable that the removal of the disease would give considerable present relief even in those cases where its growth and extension have been unchecked; but the earlier that the operation can be performed so much the more sure and more lasting will be the reprieve from suffering. The late Mr. Tyrrell spoke very strongly of the beneficial results of the prolonged use of mercury in these cases. In some instances the improvement in the general health and condition was very striking, and the growth of the tumour would appear in others to have been decidedly controlled. When the inflammatory symptoms are well marked, it is easy to understand the influence which the thorough exhibition of mercury may command, but very few would be inclined to trust to any other plan of treatment than that of the complete removal of the disease when possible.

#### ARTICLE XIX.—*What becomes of Medical Students.* By JAMES PAGET, F.R.S.

IT is said that, on entering the anatomical theatre for one of his Introductory Lectures, Mr. Abernethy looked round at the crowd of pupils and exclaimed, as if with painful doubt, 'God help you all! what will become of you?'

I am not aware that any attempt has hitherto been made to answer such a question. The grounds on which I venture an answer are in the knowledge of what became of a thousand of my pupils within fifteen years of their entrance at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. The number may suffice for the grounds of that degree of general belief which, in a matter of this kind, is as near an approach to knowledge as we are likely to attain. And I believe that what may be told of the pupils of St. Bartholomew's would hold true of those of all the metropolitan schools, for with us the varieties of students, according

to difference of birth, wealth, and previous education, are collected, I believe, in very nearly the same proportions as would be found in all the other metropolitan schools together.

The pupils from whose careers the following notes are derived were among those who attended, either my Demonstrations of Morbid Anatomy between 1839 and 1843, or my Lectures on General and Morbid Anatomy and Physiology between 1843 and 1859. Of the former, I kept no complete lists, but have the names of 95; of the latter, I have complete lists, containing 1,131 names. Of the total, 1,226, many have been quite lost sight of.\* The career of 1,000 are known either to myself or to Mr. Callender or Mr. Smith, or all of us; for we have worked together for this essay.

Of the thousand—

23	achieved distinguished success.
†66	„ considerable success.
‡507	„ fair success.
124	„ very limited success.
56	failed entirely.
96	left the profession.
87	died within twelve years of commencing practice.
41	died during pupilage.

In this table, they are classed as having achieved distinguished success who, within fifteen years§ after entering, gained, and to the end of the time maintained, leading practices in counties or very large towns, or held important public offices, or became medical officers of large hospitals, or teachers in great schools, as the Professors of Anatomy in Oxford, Cambridge, and Edinburgh, all of whom it was my singular good fortune to have for pupils.

Considerable success is ascribed to those who gained and still hold high positions in the public services, or leading practices in good districts, or who retired with money earned in practice, or gained much more than ordinary esteem and influence in society.

\* Since writing the paper I have heard of a few more; but I have not used them for the tables. They would not disturb the proportions, which are more easily calculated in the exact thousand, than in a rather larger number. If it were possible to learn what has become of all those whom we have lost sight of, they would probably be classed in due proportions under all the headings in the table except the first two.

† Including 3 dentists.

‡ Including 7 dentists.

§ Or less, in the cases of those entering between 1854 and 1859.