The Hand in Systemic Disease
Fred G. Corley M.D.
"Let him on meeting a fellow mortal learn at a glance to distinguish the history of the man and the trade or profession to which he belongs. Puerile as such an exercise may seem, it sharpens the faculties of observation and teaches one where to look and what to look for. By a man's fingernails, by his coat sleeve, by his boots, by his trouser knees, by the callosities of his forefinger and thumb, by his expression, by his shirt cuffs – by each of these things a man's calling is plainly revealed."

Now the skilful workman is very careful indeed as to what he takes into his brain-attic. He will have nothing but the tools which may help him in doing his work, but of these he has a large assortment, and all in the most perfect order. It is a mistake to think that that little room has elastic walls and can distend to any extent. Depend upon it there comes a time when for every addition of knowledge you forget something that you knew before. It is of the highest importance, therefore, not to have useless facts elbowing out the useful ones.
A 57yo grandfather goes to Colorado and develops congestive heart failure after hiking with his grandson.

A 30yo woman with anemia and an acute abdomen is seen in the emergency room.
A 17yo lad has a hct of 17 and spots all over his body

A 50 yo threatens to “punch me out”

A 12yo with numbness and tingling in both hands – has had previous carpal tunnel releases

A 45yo lady with leukemia
A college junior is admitted with a painful swollen knee
A 35yo with numbness and tingling.

Following a bout with the chicken pox this 4yo is seen in the ICU.
The Hand...

An 18yo college sophomore with early onset “feeble mindness”

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