

Cod Liver Oil and Egnogs*For William Bronson, MD*

We started the day this way,
Then arch exercises to prevent flat feet.
Adequate hydration was his mantra—
Six glasses of water a day—
And eight hours of sleep.

He woke us with a whistled reveille,
And there were no excuses
From going to school.
But he faded away,
Disappeared into days
Of frenzied house calls,
Midnight rides.

And months passed quickly into years,
As he spent prematurely
All he had.
Then, one day, he died,
After giving so much,
Driven by a need I could not assess—
Providing his patients
What first he gave to us.

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