

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Queen's College Journal :

I WRITE to plead through your columns for the better education of our graduates in medicine, who, more than Prof. Dupuis knows, are often lacking in knowledge and go hence to reflect discredit on us. I have no broad scheme to set before you which would at once elevate every one who seeks a medical degree and training ; but I have a suggestion which will tend to raise the standard.

No one denies that it would be a great boon to profession and people if every medical student were obliged to take first an Arts course. We are pleased to hear a rumor that the Ontario Council will soon insist on this. But, meanwhile, we should consider well all the means which may encourage a preliminary Arts course to be taken. Here is one of them : Grant to every Bachelor of Arts the degree of Master of Arts, who takes a course in medicine and makes therein a good percentage.

We know the degree of Master is now given only to such as obtain Honors in any one of the departments of the Honor course, and after a satisfactory thesis. Surely a course in medicine extending over three or four years is equivalent to Honors in one department of Arts, particularly when the B.A. secures a high percentage in medicine. It may be said that both courses should be taken and Honors in Arts as well, that the M.A. degree be obtained. But, sir, if a youth decide to learn medicine, but first fits himself by an Arts training, by the time he has got his M.D., C.M., he will feel the seven or eight years have been all to short to equip for the medical profession. Every doctor, at least, will agree to this. His final year in Arts should be spent not in Honor studies, but in grasping the rudiments of medicine.

By following my proposal medical students would have another incentive to first study in Arts, and graduates in Arts would be induced into medicine. But are there not enough medical students ? No, not of the educated sort.

I hope, sir, this matter will be given some attention by the proper persons. I have not entered into detail. That is not for me to do. I have not set forth all the advantages of an Arts training to a doctor. That would take much space. The Honor examination in medicine would have to be adjusted properly, for the present lottery system would make men shrink from trying their luck. Other minor points would demand rectification. Then think how much more euphonious M.A., M.D., sounds than B.A., M.D.

Yours,
JOHN DYSS.

Erzroom, March 11th, 1887.

MY DEAR JOURNAL.—I am always glad to see your bright well-printed page, and every month my pride in the circumstance that I am a graduate of "Queen's" receives an accession. Your last number contains two items especially which stirred my heart :—1st. The plucky and most praiseworthy movement of the Missionary

Society to support a Foreign Missionary. 2nd. The decision to present to the University a portrait of Dr. Williamson, whom I always think of with feelings of lively gratitude and affection.

Your readers may be interested in a copy of the Meteorological Review of Erzroom for 1886, kept by the teacher of our Boys' High School :

	January, Mean Tem., Fahr., 1887	No. Cloudy Days	1886	Rainfall.	Snowfall.
January	29	19	19	1	2
February	27	15	15	1	5
March	31	10	10	1	19
April	30	10	10	1	14
May	53	10	10	1	
June	61	10	10	1	
July	64	8	8	1	
August	66 5-6	7	7	1	
September	55 3-5	8	8	1	
October	43	21	21	1	5
November	31 1-5	15	15	1	11
December	21	15	15	1	7
For the year	42	153	153	10	63

The warmest days were August 13th and 14th, Mean Temperature 74°. At noon of the 13th the Thermometer registered 92. The coldest day was December 19th, Mean Temperature 2°. The heaviest snowstorm occurred in April.

1887 will show a different record. January and February were bitterly cold months, and the storm of Friday and Saturday last added 18 inches to the thickness of winter's mantle.

A curious volume, with no doubt a curious history, lies before me. It is "The Works of Jacob Behmen, the Teutonic Theosopher. Volume III, containing 1. The Mysterium Magnum, or an explanation of the first book of Moses called Genesis, in three parts. 2. Four tables of Divine Revelation, with figures, illustrating his principles, left by the Reverend William Law, M.A., London, printed for G. Robinson, in Paternoster Row, MDCCLXXII." In a clear, characteristic hand is the inscription, "Ann Fletcher Grate Jane Stile, 1825, her Booke." Query :—Who was Ann Fletcher ? and how did "her Booke" fall into the hands of an Erzroom Turk ? The same Turk has a number of English books, among them a "Contractor's and Engineer's Note Book for 1850."