

*University of Philadelphia and Announcement of the Fall and Winter Session of 1854-55.*—The Penn. Medical University has introduced a reformation in medical education. The studies are divided into 24 instead of 6 or 7 branches. Several subjects have been added to those usually taught in the schools, such as logic, history, general and medical botany, &c. The time of collegiate education has been extended from two to at least *four* courses of lectures and demonstrations, as is the practice in McGill College, thus setting an example which the other American Colleges must follow before long—the evils of the forcing system of two years outweigh all the pecuniary profits.

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*Annual Announcement of Rush Medical College.*—This announcement sets forth in a perspicuous and satisfactory manner the inducements held out to the medical student to select Rush College as his *alma mater*. We hope its prosperity will continue.

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*Licentiates in Medicine, C. W.*—His Excellency the Governor General has granted a license to Thomas Wheller, of the city of Montreal, and Thomas Cowdry, of Cobourg, to practise Physic, Surgery, and Midwifery, in that part of Canada called Upper Canada.

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*Simaba Cedron in Intermittent Fever.*—We have received a pamphlet from Dr. Purple, New York, containing important practical “observations on some of the remedial properties of *simaba cedron*, and of its employment in intermittent fever.” The *simaba cedron* is a tree which grows to the height of, probably, twenty feet. It is a *habitat* of New Grenada, Banks (near San Pablo) of the Magdalena, and Isle de Caybo, coast of the Pacific. It has long been held in high esteem by the natives of South America, as a sovereign remedy for bites of venomous serpents. Dr. Purple has treated eleven cases of intermittent fever with success, by the administration of the powdered cotyledon of cedron. He gives, to an adult, doses varying from five to twenty grains, repeated every fourth hour for twenty-four or thirty-six hours. “The evidence,” he says, “which has already accumulated in regard to this plant, points to the fact that it possesses important anti-periodic properties, and perhaps, upon further investigation, it may be found to be a valuable substitute for quinine—a desideratum long sought after. Our