

is true, as a rule, they are merely advertisements in a more emboldened form, yet the same end might still be attained, and much more modestly, too, if the writers were less vaunting in their professions and declarations. We trust, too, in future, that the compilers will not form such a low estimate of their readers' abilities, by undertaking to define the meaning of such common-place words as anatomy, physiology, &c. And if they write for physicians and guardians who are making up their minds where to send their charges it cannot certainly be necessary to inflate the boundaries and scope of the respective departments as they are paraded. We may be guided by a very contrary rule, but our inclination is always to expect least from the teacher or class that happens to be most imposing in pretensions. It is but just to observe that these remarks are not specially applicable to the announcements above named; they have rather been suggested by announcements generally, Canadian as well as American, and, as such, their propriety rests on an ample basis.

---

#### LAVAL UNIVERSITY.

We have heard but little of this seminary of learning for some time. Recently, however, our attention has been attracted to an announcement of the opening of its classes for the session 1856-57. Which event took place on the 9th ultimo, under as favorable auspices as circumstances would allow. The medical department affords valuable opportunities for the attainment of an extended knowledge in our profession. And we believe no expenses have been spared to procure a large assortment of means of illustration for the assistance of the various lecturers. A great portion of the museum has been imported expressly from Paris at great cost. We understand that it is the intention to append to the former staff a Professorship of Institutes of Medicine. This is a very wise procedure, and is merely in unison with the present enlightened state of medicine. For histology, physiology, morbid anatomy, and pathology, which are all included under this domain, have become so amplified by the researches and additions that have been contributed from various quarters during the past half-century as now to constitute a distinct branch of medical teaching, instead of severally encroaching, as formerly, upon the privileges of neighboring sections to which they could only claim the affinity of co-relation. We have much pleasure in further adding that Dr. W. Marsden, of Quebec, has been recommended by the Medical Council, or Faculty, to the University Council, as the most fit and proper selection that can be made. Our personal knowledge enables us unhesitatingly to accord in the corporate opinion so decisively