

letters. As books on applied science are on the free list, the customs authorities at Toronto are allowing the free entry of all books on medicine and surgery. Besides, American reprints of English works, not copyrighted in Canada, may now be imported.

Surgical instruments will be put on the free list on the first of January, 1898. Up to that date they will have to pay only 10 per cent. duty.

J. J. C.

GOOD ADVICE.

WE are wondering whether the Editor of our esteemed contemporary, *The Canadian Medical Review*, will feel hurt if we mention in passing that possibly the following verses might be quoted with some little benefit to the gentlemen who have recently been filling his journal with such a voluminous amount of correspondence on Council matters :

If you've got a thought that's happy,
Boil it down;
Make it short and crisp and snappy,—
Boil it down.

When your brain its coin has minted,
Down the page your pen has sprinted,
If you want your effort printed,
Boil it down.

Take out every surplus letter,—
Boil it down;
Fewer syllables the better,—
Boil it down.

Make your meaning plain,—explain it
So we'll know, not merely guess it;
Then, my friend, ere you address it,
Boil it down.

Boil out all the extra trimmings,—
Boil it down;
Skim it well, then skim the trimmings,
Boil it down.

When you're sure 'twould be a sin to
Cut another sentence into,
Send it on, and we'll begin to
Boil it down