

Correspondence.

MEDICAL THOUGHTS.

To the Editor of THE CANADIAN PRACTITIONER AND REVIEW.

DEAR SIR:

There is a name, dear to several thousand M.D.'s who, like myself, have no doubt wondered why our Provincial University has not honored with its LL.D. Need I say that this name is that of W. B. Geikie, whose reputation as an able Professor in Medicine for nearly forty, if not more years, and whose zeal for his students' welfare—"ever the students' friend"—have been confirmed and recognized by all true friends of medicine in this Canada of ours? Chauvinism being silenced.

When our universities shall exact for matriculants in medicine the qualifications of the degrees B.A. or the B.S. (in which degrees are embodied a thorough acquaintance with the classics of Greece and Rome), then medicine, and not until then, will have the honored place to which, among men, she is entitled. Why should not our Provincial University become the vexillary in these demands? Is it not to scholarly men most disheartening when the recent graduate says: "I have forgotten my Latin. I never studied Greek. I can not translate my diploma's Latin"?

Our studies go with us through life, and the dear people are expecting scholarship of the highest order among the youngest M.D.'s. Are our young men scholars, such as were Wm. Harvey or Oliver Goldsmith at graduation? History says, "No." Medicine invites and encourages the philomath—men of the type of I. B. Cameron—*inter sapientis medicus*.

Medical journalism is certainly debasing medicine, and an inspection will very easily confirm this assertion. Not only debasing and degrading in character, as relates to advertisements, but in many instances the texts have too often the almanac character, in which a proprietary medicine affords the object held in view. When medical journals are shorn of advertisements, of which two-thirds bear startling evidences of the fakir, the unrelenting parasite, and be even such as were our journals of twenty years ago, the better will