

CORRESPONDENCE.

(To the Editor of the Canada Lancet.)

DEAR SIR,—The suddenness of the announcement of the coming elections in this morning's paper, leaves me but little time to express my views upon a subject in which, at the present time, we are especially interested as medical men.

Whatever may be our individual opinions as to various points of medical legislation, I think it will have been painfully evident to all, that the members of our profession have not received that consideration at the hands of public men, (or a certain class of public men), to which their position entitles them. Nor is this confined to any particular sphere of public life in our Province. It is apparent in the legislative halls, in courts of law, in municipal action in regard to sanitary matters, and in various other ways. The spirit of perfect indifference, if not of contempt, toward the profession, has been so long tolerated by us, that it manifests itself in every walk of life. Our differences of opinion are magnified into mountains, and paraded to our very faces as evidences of our childish weakness. If illustrations are wanted, over and above those which we see around us every day, I would ask what medical men were consulted, when the Homœopathic and Eclectic Boards were authorized to hatch *ad libitum*, and to send forth luminaries to practise "special" theories, who were perfectly innocent of all knowledge of general principles? Is it not a fact that we were considered so childish, and withal so "bigoted," that we could not see that the extra burden of a knowledge of medicine in general, might unfit those geniuses for the pursuit of exclusive theories; and hence we were not fit and proper persons to be consulted?

Again, it is said by the gentlemen who had charge of the present Act, that they at first endeavoured to pass it in the shape in which the old Council intended it should pass, but that Mr. Cameron said "that he would not allow it to pass unless it included the Homœopaths and Eclectics," and so our profession is launched *volens volens* into novel and startling associations by the dictum of one outside individual. The fact of some of our own body having connived does not materially alter the case so far as the humiliation of being dictated to is concerned.

Furthermore, what followed in the ensuing session. When