

lies solely in diagnosis, and finding it impossible to be thoroughly *au fait* in other branches, *e. g.*, therapeutics, treatment, posology, etc., in the then enormously wide areas that these will cover (we speak, say of fifty years from now), the diagnostician will hand his patient over to the specialist for the lungs, liver, stomach, nervous system, and so on, just as now the ordinary practitioner hands him over to the oculist or aurist. These will in turn hand him over to the therapist with minute directions as to the effects he wishes to be produced upon the system and the tissues. Still more in the future, probably, there will be classes of diagnosticians and therapists. This is no visionary theory; the germs of such a system exist all around us if we will but recognize them. The same process is obtaining in kindred sciences; for example, in biology there are men who not only devote themselves entirely to one of the two great branches into which it is divided, morphological and functional biology, but go so far as to give themselves up to the study of one minute part of the many divisions into which each of these is broken up—as myological or osteological development, etc.

If then, we are not altogether incorrect in our surmises, the lesson for the student is that if specialism is the tendency of the day, and the all-in-all of the near future, to specialism he must devote himself—with this caution: that no specialism is possible except that which is built upon the broad foundation of a thorough knowledge of anatomy, physiology, chemistry, etc., etc.

#### THE ANNUAL MEDICAL BANQUETS.

The occurrence of the annual dinners of the graduates, under-graduates and professors of the various medical schools is looked forward to with much interest and pleasure. These occasions are made the opportunity of eliciting the expression of opinion of competent persons on matters connected with education generally, and medical education in particular. That this is recognized by the students themselves is evident from the large number of complimentary tickets issued, and also by the prominence given to those toasts which call forth speeches from eminent educationists and politicians. The banquets this year have been no exception in this respect, and we have been treated

to some very valuable remarks by those best qualified, both from ability and experience to express an opinion. These banquets, according to the custom of the medical dinners for many years, were conducted on strictly temperance principles, and the toasts were drunk in cold water.

The annual banquet of the Toronto School of Medicine was held on the 12th ult., and was well attended. The chair was occupied by Dr. H. Bascom, supported on his right by the Lieut.-Governor of Ontario and Dr. McVicar, and on his left by Mayor Boswell, Prof. Clarke, and others. After justice had been done to the good things provided for the occasion, toast, song and sentiment followed each other in rapid succession, until far into the evening. The Lieut.-Governor in his speech, which was witty and well received, alluded to the obligation which the schools were under to the Hospital, and also gave a short sketch of the history of that institution. Prof. Clarke, of Trinity College, in responding for the "Universities and Colleges," said that in spite of expressions to the contrary there was the best possible feeling between the several universities in Canada. A scheme for the federation of the different universities is now very widely talked about, and he hoped that some such scheme would be effected so that a common standard might be obtained which would ensure degrees of fixed worth. He thought that while a multiplication of colleges was good, a multiplication of universities was an evil. He referred to Dr. Wilson's recent letter in defence of University College, and wished that Dr. Wilson had been more specific in his references to the persons who had made the charges which he combats. He hardly thought that Dr. Wilson placed Trinity University among the number, for Trinity was a non-sectarian university. Prof. Ramsay Wright responded for University College, and Principal Buchan, for Upper Canada College. The "Dominion and Local Legislatures" was responded to by H. E. Clarke, M.P.P. The "Learned Professions," "Graduates and Graduating Class," "General Hospital," "Freshmen," "Ladies," and the "Press," concluded the list of toasts, and a very pleasant evening's entertainment was brought to a close.

The Trinity Medical College banquet took place on the 20th ult., and was very largely attended. The chair was occupied by Mr. P. A. Dewar, sup-