

be carefully studied, and do not put away your text books with the parchment you have received to-day.

Some of you may anticipate a trip abroad to visit the various hospitals of Great Britain and the Continent. Just a word on this subject. You are as yet inexperienced, the advantages of such a trip cannot at present be fully appreciated, as you are not in a position to sift the chaff from the wheat. The result is a lot of valuable time wasted and money spent to no advantage.

After four or five years work in general practice, or after holding a hospital appointment as resident for a year or so, you are then in a position from the experience acquired to spend a couple of years very profitably abroad.

Unfortunately however there are cases amongst the graduating class of each year which necessitate some to cross the Atlantic and obtain further degrees to enable them to become registered practitioners of certain Provinces of the Dominion. This state of things is a deplorable one, and let us hope the day is not far distant when one license will give the profession the privilege of practising anywhere in Her Majesty's Dominions.

That any one should cross the Atlantic simply with the idea that having acquired further degrees he is therefore entitled to be more deserving of practice is a delusion; the laity looks to the personal ability of the practitioner and not to any additional degrees he may have secured.

A danger which confronts us in the present time is the ambition of the recent graduate in medicine to take up a speciality; and how often one is asked by the newly created M.D., "What speciality might I take up?"

Specialism is not a branch of medicine separated by a definite line of demarcation, independent of and quite distinct from the field of general practice, but should be regarded as supplementary to this. A field open to the general practitioner who, in his riper experience, will add to his store of knowledge by such further researches in the region of science as will enable him to deal in a skilful manner with diseases of certain organs which require specific treatment. The specialist is thus a co-worker with the general practitioner, not an antagonist striving for his own selfish aims, but working harmoniously to their mutual advantage. The recent graduate who imagines that all that is necessary to qualify as a specialist is to spend a few months abroad, or, as some do, a few weeks, attending the clinics of hospitals not far from home, makes as ad mistake. To these short-term special-ists is attributable much of the harm done to specialism. They bring