

connection with the Association. Not less than four days should be given to this Ottawa meeting, one of which, say, might be pleasantly and profitably occupied by an excursion down the Ottawa, followed by a *conversazione* in the evening. It is not unlikely that quite a number of members of the profession in the neighboring States, and possibly a few from Great Britain, might attend the conference, if invited through the medical press or otherwise. Trusting these suggestions may be favorably considered, and bring out others,

I am, very truly yours,

EDWARD PLAYTER, M.D.

MEDICAL SCHOOL AMALGAMATION.

To the Editor of the CANADA LANCET:

SIR:—The following is the reply of the Corporation of Trinity Medical School, to the report of the Senate of Toronto University, in reference to the establishment of a Medical Faculty in connection with the University.

To the Vice-Chancellor and Members of the Senate:

GENTLEMEN,—At a meeting of the Corporation of Trinity Medical School, held a few days since, the report of the Committee of the Senate of the University of Toronto was, in accordance with the letter of the Registrar (Mr. Baker) accompanying it, laid before the Corporation for consideration. The report was very carefully gone over, section by section, and after mature deliberation regarding the scheme proposed in it, the following conclusions were reached:

I. The proposal to form a new Medical College to be called the "University of Toronto Medical College," which shall be the "Medical Faculty" of the "University of Toronto," is contrary to the policy of the Provincial University, as established in 1853, and would practically destroy its character as a Provincial University, so far as regards medical education, and would reduce it to the rank of one amongst several competing Universities.

II. The scheme submitted, is also, in the opinion of the Corporation, directly opposed to the Government scheme of "College Federation," which does not contemplate the amalgamation of the several federating Colleges—but carefully preserves their identity, and secures self-government to each, whereas, the affiliation of several Medical Colleges with the University, as at present and for many years past, is in harmony with the "College Federation" scheme, and this Corporation cannot understand why there should now, in the department of medicine, be any departure from that policy.

III. That even if, as is not the case, the proposed scheme were practicable in all other respects, it has no satisfactory financial basis to rest upon. Medical professors require to be adequately remunerated if they are to be expected to devote their chief energies to the duties of their respective chairs, and this would not be the case under the proposed plan, since it does not contemplate any provision for Professors salaries beyond fees obtained from students, and in the opinion of the Corporation, so long as Medical Education is dependent for its support on these fees alone, the present is the best system which can be devised, as it is eminently successful—does the country credit at home and abroad and—costs it nothing.

IV. The scheme as set forth in the report, would not promote the interests of Medical Education in this Province. It would not tend to decrease, and would to a certainty increase the number of Medical Schools, while on the other hand the present system gives a healthy stimulus to exertion,—encourages competition amongst the Medical Schools—begets an earnest desire on the part of the respective governing bodies of these, to be first, in efficiency and equipment, and a praiseworthy effort to educate men well, and thus fit them for success in their profession. This healthy rivalry between schools cannot injure the profession or the public, and benefits both, where, as in Ontario, all students, wherever educated, have to be examined by the Medical Council's Examiners, before being admitted to practice. Experience has clearly shewn that in Institutions removed from competition, the teaching is not, as a general rule progressive, nor is the management, always characterized by energy and efficiency.

For the reasons above given, the Corporation of Trinity Medical School is not willing to suspend its charter, and enter into the scheme proposed in the report.

Signed by order, and on behalf of the Corporation,

WALTER B. GEIKIE,

Trinity Medical School,

Toronto, April 6, 1887.

Dean.

To the Editor of the CANADA LANCET.

SIR,—Will you kindly answer, through the columns of the LANCET, the following questions:

1. Should a physician change his clothes after visiting a case of diphtheria, before associating with other people, or visiting other patients? Of course I make exceptions to those cases where, in making an examination of a throat, matter has been coughed on to the doctor's clothing; when such an accident happens, as it not infrequently does, the question must be answered in the affirmative, but I have reference to ordinary visits,