

often very inconvenient for a lawyer to leave his work at such an hour. Nevertheless the Professors ought to make it a point to be punctual, and, except on the rarest occasions, make everything give way to this duty. In order to make the work easier and the Professors more attentive to their duty I recommend the adoption of the plan followed at Laval. There the lecturers are paid five dollars a lecture, and an accurate list of attendance is kept. This rule has, it is needless to say, a very stimulating effect. In the second place, the whole session is divided into three terms, and so many Professors allotted to each term. Each Professor lectures every day during his term, and his work is then over for a year. This has the effect of making the lecturers more punctual, and of making the students more interested in their work. At present, for instance, a lecture is given on Roman law in McGill once a week, or on an average about four lectures a month for three months. At Laval the same subject is taken up every day, Saturday included, for the same number of months. In other words six times as much work is expended on this subject at Laval as at McGill. And so with the other subjects. Everyone will recognize that one hour a week is far too little for Roman Law; and the shame is the greater because our Professor of Roman Law knows more about his subject than, perhaps, any other person in Canada. Again, the length of the session is too short. I can see no earthly reason why it should not be prolonged so as to close at the same time as that in the Faculty of Arts. It might then be divided into three terms as follows: the first from October till Christmas, the second from 1st January till the middle of February, and the third from the middle or end of February till the end of March. The examinations for the whole session could be held in April, and the Convocation take place at the same time as the Arts one. If these changes were carried out I have not the slightest doubt but that the reputation of the Faculty would rapidly rise, because a sounder course would be afforded, while at the same time the Professors would find their labour much less onerous.

yours etc.

B. C. L.

Editors McGill Gazette:—

DEAR SIRS:—It has always been the peculiar boast of McGill Medical College that it presented unrivalled facilities for the study of anatomy, and that its course in this subject was not equalled on this Continent. The demonstrators have been most painstaking and efficient, and the mode of conducting the work tended to inspire the student with a zeal worthy of the subject. While encouraged to work independently and observantly, and while having his work carefully examined and his knowledge of it thoroughly tested, his labour was much lightened, and his interest stimulated, by frequent and able demonstrations on the important organs, viscera, etc. From personal experience I know that last year the demonstrations were frequent, able, and instructive, and during the Christmas holidays there were more demonstrations than during the whole present session.

This present session (for some unexplained reason) things are not as they were, and the anatomy room is

fast losing its reputation for pre-eminence, particularly among those who are most interested in its efficiency—viz, the students of the Primary Class.

The feeling is wide-spread among them, and the greatest dissatisfaction prevails, that while the facilities are still unrivalled, there is a great decline in the quality of the teaching in the Dissecting-room, so that students are forced to trust for much of their knowledge of the subject to the lectures on Anatomy.

There is a lack of interest displayed by certain of the demonstrators which, aside from the direct injury suffered from the consequent carelessness and neglect, has a very injurious moral influence—particularly on first-year students.

When a demonstrator accepts the following as the boundaries of the Popliteal space—"It is bounded above by Hunter's Canal, below by the Popliteus Muscle;" or devotes ten minutes to "grinding" six men on the whole dissection of the leg; or after telling a student to go home and read his work because he missed a "catch" question, says, in an aside, "The fact is I have not read up the 'abdomen' this year and don't know it very well," he is, to put it mildly, grossly careless, and displays a spirit unworthy of his position. The above instances are but a few among many similar ones; and students are constantly complaining of the impossibility of getting proper demonstrations or thorough "grinds" and it is often, only after considerable waiting, that even these "grinds" are obtained owing to absence of demonstrators.

During the present session, there have been not more than half a dozen class demonstrations, and not one during the holidays, which is a bad showing compared with last year.

When grievances thus exist (and that they are real I fear will not be shewn on the 18th March, next) it is but proper that the students who are most interested, should give expression to them and strive to have them removed.

I hope it will not appear that I have endeavoured to lower the reputation of our school; for I believe it will ever maintain the position of pre-eminence which it has attained by fifty years of thorough high-standard work attested to by able graduates the world over.

Neither am I to be understood as wishing to be personal in this matter. But I do protest against the meagreness of demonstrations; the lack of enthusiasm and energy, diffusing itself throughout the whole class; the careless inspection of work; the lack of thoroughness in "grinds;" and the inefficient assistance rendered the oft puzzled student of anatomy, in the dissecting room during the present session.

To avoid personality it is impossible to more than refer thus generally to the management, etc. of the room; at the same time these remarks do not apply to all the demonstrators, some of whom are most painstaking and efficient; but let whom the cap fits wear it.—Yours, etc.,

PRIMARY STUDENT.

To the Editors of the McGill College Gazette;

Sirs,—Partly in appreciation of the "Denial" which headed your last issue, and partly in response to the