Montreal, thus, holds out many inducements to the student to select it as the city of his medical education. It has already acquired a widespread reputation. Year after year students have come to it from different portions of the Province, and from the adjoining Union, while duly qualified practitioners have gone from it to all parts of the world, affording proof by their abilities of the capabilities of the source whence they sprang. Its worth is further attested by the many who after graduating at McGill College have visited transatlantic cities, and returned with honors and other flattering testimonials of proficiency. An achievement not so difficult of accomplishment, since the Royal Colleges of both Surgeons and Physicians in London, Ireland and Edinburgh, receive them on the most favorable terms, and award them all the privileges obtainable by those who have studied in the schools of Great Britain and Ireland.

A NEW ANÆSTHETIC.

Mr. Nunnely, a few years ago, instituted inquiries into the nature of several chemical substances, with the view of ascertaining whether they possessed anæsthetic properties or not, and was rewarded with the discovery of several such previously unknown. These, with those met with by other chemists, form a large class of anæsthetic agents, amounting, in all, to thirty or more in number. Some were a series of compounds of organic radicles, as ethyle, acetyle, formyle, and methyle, and all had one common character of being manufactured articles. Latterly, another substance has been added to the list, which, unlike the former, is an organic substance and a natural product. Mr. Richardson, in a late publication, directs attention to the anæsthetic properties of the lycoperdon proteus or common puff ball. We have not yet seen his pamphlet, but from a notice of it we learn that it gives the detail of a series of experiments on dogs that were made to inhale the smoke of the burning fungus, and appears to establish the following conclusions:—

1. That the narcotic principle is given off freely during the combustion of the fungus; and, as it exists, the fumes produced are highly volatile.

2. Combustion of the fungus in oxygen gas does not destroy the anæsthetic principle.

3. The anæsthetic principle is not quickly absorbed or destroyed, either by water, alcohol or strong alkaline solutions.

Unless puff ball has some marked superiority over chloroform, the present favorite, it is not likely to be adopted as a substitute or be received into general use. We think we have all that can be desired in