

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Canada Lancet

DEAR SIR, —I have long delayed laying before your professional readers my views in reference to the position our Body (the Eclectic) occupies in the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario. It is true we have a right to elect five members as representatives in the Medical Council, apart from this there is little else for us to do, as will be seen by references hereinafter made, except to act in concert with the general movements of the Council, over which—were our representatives so disposed—we could exercise no control, from the fact that we are outnumbered. No cause has yet arisen in the workings of the Council to justify any opposition to its general movements by our representatives, for be it said to the honor of its members, our Body has been more than fairly dealt with, as we have been allowed from year to year to elect two members upon the Central Examining Board each year, but unfortunately for us to no purpose, as not a single student for the last three years, or during the existence of the present Ontario Medical Act, has manifested a desire to be examined in our (once) specialty, or desired to be registered by any other title than Mem College of Physicians and Surgeons, Ontario, all making choice of one name, hence, all enjoying one professional faith. There is nothing inconsistent in this, as the features or codes of professional faith so peculiar in former days, dividing up the profession into three distinct Bodies, have most wisely passed away. Prior to 1869, the profession in Ontario consisted of three Bodies, each holding separate legal rights, the Allopathic Body, the Homœopathic Body, and the Eclectic Body, each body in former days adhering closely to its *pathy*, thus Allopathy, derived from two Greek words, *allos* and *pathos*, "morbid condition," the phraseology meaning *curatio contrariorum per contraria*, therapeutically meaning the institution of "a new morbid condition to remove the one that the patient might be suffering from." Homœopathy, the direct opponent to the last named theory, is derived from the Greek *omoiopathia*, *omotos*, like and *pathos*, affection, in common parlance, *similia similibus curantur*, thus meaning that the remedial agency used must be such as will produce a like affection in a healthy constitution, as the patient to be treated seemed to be labouring under. This doctrine, which is indeed very fanciful and