

subordinate importance whether the text book at present employed (that of Huxley and Martin) be continued; some of the chapters might advantageously treat of different forms, while others again, such as those on bacteria, moulds, the frog, etc., are quite necessary for reasons referred to above.

It is hardly to be wondered at that the significance of such a course should have remained obscure to those whose education would dispose them to look at medicine rather as an art than as a science, and that it should have earned among them the "not contemptuous but playful" sobriquet of "frogology." Nevertheless, as the advance of medicine as an art must depend on its development as a science, it is difficult to regard such an attitude playfully and not contemptuously.

Should such a more intimate connection between the University of Toronto and medical education be effected as is proposed, I trust that the medical profession will see not only that the Medical College is fully equipped with pathological, bacteriological and pharmacological laboratories, which will permit students to gain such a practical acquaintance with these specially medical sciences as will enable them to assimilate with greater ease the vast body of knowledge which they must acquire, but also that there is ample provision made in the University for the preliminary scientific training in those subjects already forming parts of the Arts Curriculum, which alone can render them capable of profiting to the utmost by such opportunities. In this way, while the Medical Council is responsible for the practical efficiency of its licentiates, the University will turn out annually a body of graduates more interested in the progress of their Alma Mater, and more in sympathy with the development of scientific education in the Province.

The German Physicians' Union has issued a paper advising young men against entering the medical profession, as the prospects of doctors are becoming worse yearly.

‡ An American Journal of Biology has been started in Chicago. Edited by Dr. H. D. Valin.

THE SUBIODIDE OF BISMUTH IN THE TREATMENT OF WOUNDS.

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(Read before the Toronto Medical Society, Mar. 10th.)

The subiodide of bismuth in the treatment of ulcerations was the subject of a very clear, original and instructive paper by Dr. A. S. Reynolds of Philadelphia, which appeared in the *Medical News* of October 9, 1886.

In 1876, while resident surgeon to the Presbyterian Hospital of Philadelphia, an experimental chemist sent to Dr. Reynolds a sample of the subiodide of bismuth. The effect of this sample upon some cases of ulcers then under his care was, he states, simply marvellous. He procured a further supply, and now, after a thorough trial extending over ten years, he claims that it is almost a specific in gonorrhoea, in various specific and septic inflammations, oral and nasal catarrh, ophthalmias, and in chancroids, rectal ulcers, and in various discrasic and cachectic ulcers.

Impressed with the enthusiasm with which Dr. Reynolds recommended this compound, and the results which he reported as following its use, I determined to procure a sample to be used in a case of indolent ulcer situated over the outer malleolus. Two days after first applying the subiodide, the ulcer assumed a healthy appearance, and within ten days it was completely healed. A few days later a somewhat similar case was brought to me. This time the ulcer was situated over the belly of the tibialis anticus, and measuring 3 inches long and $1\frac{1}{2}$ in width. After bathing the part thoroughly with a saturated solution of boracic acid, I sprinkled on the powder, strapped and bandaged carefully, and left it for two days, after which I reapplied the dressing; and on calling three days later was surprised, on removing the dressings, to find the ulcer almost healed, a small circular patch about the size of a ten cent piece alone remaining open. This cicatrized a few days later. The patient, a woman of about 60 years, was allowed to go around as usual.

Living in a portion of the city in which accidents are of very common occurrence, I have often felt the need of a satisfactory dry dressing, but think I have at length found it in the