

danger arising out of an excessive development of its fatty elements.

After all, however, we believe in skim-milk to develop a sturdy manhood, and although we have the honor of living in one of the "cream" districts, yet we regard those who reside in the land of skim-milk, as worthy of quite as much respect, and capable of exhibiting quite as independent a judgment and intelligent an exercise of the franchise as those even, who constitute the "cream of the Profession."

CANADA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

We would remind our readers that this Association meets at Ottawa on the 14th of September next. We expect a large muster of the profession from all the Provinces, and trust that Ontario will not be behind. The opportunity of a trip at one fare to the Capital of our Dominion, there to meet the *cream* of the profession, is one that does not often offer itself; and we trust that medical men will, wherever it is possible, avail themselves of it. In order that the Association should really be the voice of the profession, a full attendance is necessary, and the numbers from all parts of the country should be as nearly as possible equal. We therefore make a special appeal to our Western brethren not to suffer their section to be unrepresented.

CLINICAL TEACHING.

The tendency of the medical mind seems to be more and more, every day, in favor of Clinical Instruction, and we believe, that the more our young men are made familiar with disease at the bedside, and are enabled to watch the practice of their seniors in the case of accident or disease, the better will it be for them, the better will it be for the people, the better will it be for the future of the profession, and the less likely will we be, to have those suits for malpractice, which every now and then create such dismay, annoyance, and expense among the whole body of the profession, and the less likely will we be to have that discrepant medical testimony, which is now so invariably given on these occasions, and is the cause of so many sneers and gibes at our expense. No greater mistake was ever made than when young men were sent out to contend with diseases and accidents, in districts far removed from counsel or assistance, without having had the most ample opportunity afforded them of studying diseases and accidents, as they actually present themselves, in the wards of a large hospital. But we hold that it is comparatively little

use, for a student to walk the wards of the best appointed hospital, unless some older head takes an interest in pointing out to him the various phases which the same disease is capable of presenting at different times, and instructing him how to discriminate between diseases which often resemble each other very closely in outward appearance, but differ very widely as to their essential character. This brings us back to the old question of clinical instruction, and the possibility of getting it more fully recognized in our own hospital, which after all, furnishes a fair amount of material for instruction, if it were only utilized.

When we look over the announcements of the American schools, we are struck with the prominence which they all justly give to this department of their courses, and the ample provision being made, even by the oldest and most conservative of them, for its efficient treatment. Even so old an institution as the University of Pennsylvania has been compelled to follow the popular current, and a few weeks ago appointed no less than six clinical lecturers.

We think the present rather a favorable time for the inauguration of this new feature in connection with our Toronto schools, and that an effort should now be made to reorganize our existing medical schools, or to establish a new one altogether, on the recognized basis of clinical teaching, and we are fully persuaded that if this be done, that school, whichever it may be, that most fully carries out the principle, will occupy the foremost place among our educational institutions, and will receive the most hearty approval of the public, the profession, and the future medical students.

Correspondence.

FROM OUR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT.

NEW YORK, July 5th, 1870.

The Medico-Legal Society, of this city, was organized a little more than three years ago, by a company of physicians, of which the writer was one. At first the meetings were held alternately at the houses of members, but lately it has been necessary, owing to the increasing attendance, to convene them in the hall of the College of Physicians and Surgeons. The society is composed of legal and medical men; the subjects discussed pertaining to the wide and comprehensive field of legal medicine, and requiring for elucidation the legal as well as the medical mind. I believe this great city has been the first to institute such a society, on this continent; and, though, I will not be