

lation. There is a custom prevalent in the Royal, which should not be allowed to exist. Students are allowed to enter the college and pursue their studies up to the third or fourth year of their course without having even presented themselves for matriculation. This fact certainly leads many into the study of medicine who have not a sufficient education to pursue it with any success. But the evil does not end here. For though in the allotted time the medical student may be so fortunate as to pass both his medical and matriculation examinations, he is certainly not a well educated man, and worse still, is a very poor doctor. It is clearly evident then that no student should be allowed to register or attend classes until he has at first passed his matriculation. This may deprive the medical profession of some of her votaries; but yet we feel sure that there will be no near danger of humanity suffering from want of medical attendants. If they be fewer numerically they will be far superior in ability. Let the students be compelled to pass their matriculation before entering, let the examinations, especially in English and Mathematics, be made more severe, and then the medical profession will contain less of that class who are "cranks in everything but medicine."

THE students of the Royal College have resolved after much consideration to hold a *Conversazione* this session instead of their annual dinner. This is not entirely a new idea as it was talked of in previous years, but no action was taken in the matter. In our opinion the Medicals are taking a very commendable step, for no matter how perfect the arrangements are for a dinner, it is on the whole a rather dry affair for the most of the students. Eloquent addresses certainly are delivered by the Professors, legal friends in the city, and the representa-

tives from sister universities, but even these grow monotonous, and some change is desirable. The annual medical dinners at the Royal, have never been altogether successful, for, owing to the large number of students, there is no hotel in the city which can afford sitting room for all, and when the dinner is held in one of the large halls, great difficulty is found in obtaining the services of a competent person to cater for such a large number. The dinner is of course a very old and revered custom, but it has very little in it to elevate the social moral or intellectual tone of the students. The *Conversazione* as proposed by the Medicos will answer all the purposes of a dinner with none of its disadvantages. An opportunity will be given the Freshmen in Medicine to become acquainted with many of the citizens, and doubtless too the *Conversazione* will aid in dispelling the opinions held by many people through the city, which are anything but favorable to the medical students as a body. Principal Grant has very kindly placed the Arts building at the disposal of the Medicos for the occasion and from the preparations being made, and the interest taken in the project we may look for a *Conversazione* that will rival those given by the Alma Mater Society at the close of each session. The 17th of December has been fixed upon as the date, and classes in Arts will be suspended on that day to enable the Medicos to decorate the building and to make other preparations. It is expected that the other medical colleges throughout the Dominion will follow in the wake of the Royal in holding a reception, or *conversazione*, instead of an annual dinner, and without doubt these will be more appreciated by the students themselves and their friends than the formal dinners of the past. As the Royal has taken the lead in this change it is to be hoped that the citizens will give them all the assistance in their power.