

THE EDITOR'S SPECIAL CORNER.

THIS number will reach thousands of new readers with many of whom we hope to have, for a long time to come, regular monthly communication through these pages. We greet these, as well as all our old readers, most cordially. It shall be our chief aim, more now perhaps under our improved conditions than ever before, to make every page of the Magazine instructive and useful to every reader of them. Not a word need be said of the value of health ; but it is really marvellous how apathetic—how indifferent, most people are in regard to the many causes of disease which prevail every where—indifferent to the causes, both in regard to their own individual body, as well as the household, for the health of which heads of families are chiefly responsible—indifferent until sickness and death come with their powerful awakening. So easy often it is to prevent, so difficult, often impossible, to cure. Alas ! We often think this cause we are striving in needs missionaries to go forth and in soul stirring language preach to every creature the gospel of health. For it is very largely from ignorance of it—of the real value of health and how simple are the bye ways to it, that disease is everywhere so rife.

WHEN the happy time shall have come when every family shall be constantly under the protective influence, the “ watchful care and skilful oversight,” of a competent physician, there will follow a prosperity compared with which the present “ prosperity of the country ” of which politicians speak, will be but lightly thought of. It is not chimerical or Utopian to consider and even expect, and that soon, this changed relation between the public and the profession : not when we consider the remarks made from time to time by the greatest lights in the profession ; by Sir William Jenner, by Sir Henry Acland, by Drs. Samuel Wilkes, Alfred Carpenter, B. W. Richardson, (the late) Austin Flint, W. H. Hingston, at the recent opening of the Montreal School of Medicine, and Andrew H. Smith, still more recently at the New York Academy of Medicine ; whose remarks on “ the medicine of the near future ” will be given herein on another occasion ; not when we hear such addresses as those delivered not long ago by Dr. Clarke-Miller, at the Ohio State Medical Society meeting, and by Dr. William Hutchinson, at the meeting of the American Medical Association ; not when we read in such papers as the N. Y. Independent such as this : “ The time has really come when every family that can afford it, should put itself under the care of the physician, with expectation that he will guide the life in particulars in which every one cannot be expected to have knowledge, and so secure vigor and ward off disease.”

WHILE the public, of which the medical profession form an important integral part, should be first with all true Christians and philanthropists, we always feel the warmest, deepest loyal interest in the members, as a class, of our own beloved profession. And while it is a grand thing to be constantly engaged in the relief of suffering in the bodies of our fellow-creatures, it is