

promised three years ago, is still non-existent save on paper. No steps have been taken until the last moment to do anything in connection with it, and now we know nothing as to how it is to be conducted. We are told that the apparatus is "on the way," and that this or that minister in France is giving odd bits of apparatus. How "odd" is indicated by the fact that here, in a laboratory purely clinical, there is to be included a collection of physical instruments. We suppose that this laboratory will be established in Montreal or Quebec. But already in the Montreal and Quebec universities and hospitals there are clinical laboratories, and, what is worthy of note, these laboratories are under the charge, not of some unknown foreigner, but of specialists of known attainments, and these laboratories can always be used by the practitioners. Why, therefore, expend the funds of the College in running a laboratory which will be scarcely of any use to others than those who already have laboratories which they can employ.

4. *The "Precious Beginning of a Library."* Whoever it was who drew up the sentences in the circular concerning the Provincial Medical Library must either be a "farceur" of high standing or one perfectly ignorant of medical literature. To judge from the statement therein made, a collection of a few hundred theses or papers written by students on the eve of graduation, forms an ideal nucleus for a circulating library. It is interesting to learn that these Paris theses form the "precious beginning" of the circulating library, which is to be available for the entertainment of the country practitioner. That library you will note was promised three years ago, and now, in 1898, it still consists of this donation of about 1,800 unassorted pamphlets. We are told that it is intended to order the leading text-books in medicine, surgery, gynæcology, etc., but the most that has been done so far has been to authorise the Library Committee "to purchase a copy of the best modern works" on these subjects; beyond this the Board has not gone; none of these works are in circulation, and the circulating library also exists only on paper.

Would it not be better, it may be asked, when the College is in its present poor financial condition, to use whatever funds there may be to spare so as to encourage the creation of district societies and to help them to acquire the leading medical journals.

Next the circular passes on to point out that from a purely administrative standpoint, the Board has done its duty "even better" than during the preceding term. We are told also that bulletins of its meetings are published and