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SALUTATORY.

SOME one has said, of making many books there is no end. The same might, with equal truth, be said of Medical Periodicals. There is already published such a number and variety of periodicals devoted to the healing art that it might well be supposed that the field is completely occupied, and that there is neither room nor necessity for another. The appearance of this the first number of "THE KINGSTON MEDICAL QUARTERLY" is evidence that those who have assumed the responsibility of fathering this latest competitor for the favour of the medical public are of a different opinion. Our knowledge of the various departments of Medical Science has been obtained by the labours and experience of those who from the earliest times and in all countries have devoted their lives to the cure and prevention of disease. Every contribution, even though it contain nothing new, may be of service by confirming or modifying opinions previously held. As different observers in different localities have varying opportunities of noting the effects of disease upon the human organism, and of testing the effects upon the course of disease of different modes of treatment, it follows that the greater the number of observers and the more widely those are scattered who record their observations, the greater the amount and variety of data there will be furnished upon which to found an opinion either upon the cause, the course or the treatment of each individual form of disease.

Of course many of those who have devoted themselves to the study of the human body and its diseases are more advantageously situated than the rest of their confreres, and so we find the medical practitioners in every country, naturally grouping themselves around one or more centres. These centres are the seats of Colleges and Hospitals, and from them are issued the periodicals which record the observa-