

GOLD MEDAL—FACULTY OF MEDICINE AND HOMŒOPATHY.

To the Editor of the MONTREAL TRANSCRIPT.

SIR,—In looking over your report of the proceedings of the late Convocation of the McGill University, I noticed that the Medical Faculty was desirous that some liberal and generous hearted citizen should come forward with a Gold Medal, to be competed for by the Students at the Annual Medical Examinations of the University.

The hope of obtaining a gold medal has been, and is considered, a good *spur* to mental exertion in all departments of knowledge, but it seemed that there are other things well worthy of the attention of the liberal hearted citizen and the Medical Faculty of the University. One of these is well calculated to advance the ultimate aim and usefulness of the young graduates in medicine, who are about to put into practice on suffering humanity the theories of their school, in that department of medicine commonly termed the "Theory and Practice of Physic" to which other branches of medical education are collateral.

In this "Theory and Practice of Physic" one Professor is the teacher; and there is one peculiar method of practice taught in the University for the cure of diseases, which mainly consists of bleeding, leeching, the administration of purgatives, emetics, diuretics, the use of cauteries, setons, moxas, and the raising of pustular eruptions on the healthy skin by the application of croton oil and tartar emetic ointment. In fact torturing the healthy parts of the body outside or inside for the cure of the diseased part, and interrupting the natural secretions of the healthy skin by periodically painting with iodine, burning with turpentine, mustard, red or white hot irons, Spanish flies, &c., which conduct makes many patients believe that something energetic and heroic has been accomplished.

According to the teachings of this class of Practitioner, diseases situated in one organ of the body are thought to be alleviated by exciting a disease in another organ, and by administering substances in large quantities which cannot be made use of as elements of worn out tissue, and which are consequently rejected by the assimilative organs as worthless and injurious to the general economy. Those substances are varied occasionally as routine suggests, but in their administration, for the alleviation of disease, there is no recognition of a curative law in nature.

If the Medical Faculty of McGill University, or any liberal and progressive citizens of Montreal are anxious that the young graduates emanating yearly from this Medical School, should be in possession of a larger amount of knowledge to fit them for their arduous task, and the best known means of alleviating the distress of their fellow creatures throughout Canada, they should not rest satisfied with the mere presentation of a Gold Medal to the most diligent, or perhaps the most talented student, but they should do their best to establish a chair to teach the "Practice of Physic," according to the "Doctrines and teachings of Homœopathy." For the following reasons:—

1st. Because Homœopathy possesses a universal *law of cure*, and therefore raises the practice of physic to a science.

2nd. Because the administration of medicines, according to the Homœopathic law, does not injure any part of the healthy organism.

3rd. Because the properly selected Homœopathic remedy acts curatively on the disease itself, and removes it, (when curative means are possible with man).

4th. Because the practice of medicine according to the doctrines and teachings of Homœo-