EDITORIAL

THE TORONTO ACADEMY OF MEDICINE.

In the January issue of the Canadian Medical Association Journal there appeared an editorial on the Toronto Academy of Medicine. The article discusses the action of the Academy in the mattter of the proposition to admit Prof. A. B. Macallum to fellowshlp in it.

The article contains a number of inaccuracies, and would, if unchallenged, put the Academy in a false position before the medical profession. We have neither the time nor the inclination to take up the statements in the article seriatim, as they do not appear to us to merit such an expenditure of thought or energy.

We are pleased to state in a very definite manner that there reigns in the Academy a state of perfect harmony. Every fellow is doing his utmost for its welfare. There is not now, and there never has been, any friction between the fellows who hold positions on the teaching staff and those who do not. The existence of a medical faculty has never, in the slightest degree, influenced the election of either a fellow or an officer. The Academy has a great work to perform and it is doing its best to achieve its high aim.

Its constitution was very carefully prepared and unanimously adopted. Every fellow, when elected, signs the roll in which he pledges himself to uphold the constitution. The constitution states that if there is no objection to a candidate the Council, if unanimous, may elect him. If there is any opposition, the name must be submitted to the fellows at a regular meeting, and one adverse vote in six rejects. When a fellow votes ''yea'' or ''nay'' he is only doing what the constitution empowers him to do.

Why so many of the fellows voted against Prof. A. B. Macallum we do not know, and it is none of our business to enquire. One thing must be granted, namely, that they did so from honest motives. The fellows look upon two sides of the question—the social and the scientific; and the Academy is for the promotion of both.