

cerns the convenience of the student body and the convenience of the patients who will attend for treatment. The authorities will, no doubt, consider this with all due care, for they can rest assured that if it be located in the proper quarter, much and very great good will result in these two directions. One thing is sure, it cannot be completed too quickly.

THE PERIPATETIC OPTICIAN.

The care and treatment of diseases of the eye require such special practical knowledge that general practitioners in towns and cities generally refer all or most of these cases to those members of the profession who confine their practices to this branch of medicine and surgery. This is, we believe, done in a strictly conscientious spirit, in the belief that the eye is too important an organ to be treated by any but who has a good scientific grasp of the subject of ophthalmology. It is certainly within the reach of every medical man to possess a full scientific knowledge of this organ, and it is certainly just as much beyond the reach of every medical man to obtain a practical knowledge of the subject, because eye cases form such a very small proportion of general practice. When a medical man, then, who possesses the knowledge of the anatomy and physiology of the eye, who has the knowledge to determine how diseases of other organs may affect this one, realizes that it would be better to hand these cases over to one having a special skill in this direction, it certainly must appeal to the common sense of lay people, that there is something very much at fault, when druggists, jewellers and even veterinarians undertake the work of the fitting of glasses, and not only that, but undertake to make persons the subjects of eye defects or diseases believe that they know all about the eyes, more than the average doctor, and just as much as the eye specialist. But this is not the worst. Large firms fit out and establish in trade the peripatetic venders of glasses and spectacles, who tramp around the country with their packs on their backs, purporting to be "Doctors of Refraction." They invariably carry an eye salve, of wondrous power, which acts with magical effect, for better or for worse.

Last year the writer was rather chagrined when in the office of a "horse doctor" of a thriving western Ontario town, at