

he supposes, which discerns the sincerity of his motives and is ready to give him the moral support that heartens him in his work. There is one safe rule to follow in all controversies into which the JOURNAL is drawn with particular students. Resolutely refuse to follow the discussions any further, when the other party becomes more anxious to discuss the personal characteristics of the editor than to argue the question at issue. The readers of the JOURNAL are not particularly interested in what two individuals think about each other personally.

The other lion we have found to be chained. It is nevertheless trotted out every time the JOURNAL makes any adverse criticism of College institutions, and especially of sporting interests. We refer to the alleged effect that such criticism will have on our reputation among students of 'Varsity, McGill and other Colleges. Students who take this ground have always seemed to us to say in effect that the shame is not in having low ideals but in being known to have them. But our experience does not bear out the statement that we suffer in the estimation of other students because of outspoken criticism of ourselves; we believe it has the exactly opposite effect. Moreover, if our men are anxious to bear a good reputation abroad, a fearless and consistent discussion of our short comings is the quickest and most effective means of making such a reputation possible.

That the JOURNAL's course in such matters has met with the approval of a very large percentage of its readers is the best answer to such criticism as well as the best guarantee that nothing dishonorable will be winked at in the conduct of athletic affairs.

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A Professor in the Medical Faculty of our University, on returning monthly examination papers to the class, remarked for the benefit of one member in particular and all in general, that the word *female* was not spelt *feamale*, and then went on to say that anyone who had begun the study of medicine with as little preliminary education as that and other illustrations he could give indicated, had certainly missed his calling, should reconsider his pre-

sent purpose, and at least prepare himself for its pursuit. Three years afterwards another Professor, while similarly occupied, said, "I might just remind one gentleman that the word *foul*, when used to describe the discharge from a diseased surface, is not spelled *fowl*!"

The writer has been informed of other similar and less excusable errors on the part of aspirants for the dignity of "Family Physician," errors indicating a lack of the "sensus communis," a quality pre-eminently necessary in a Physician, consistent with a preparation entirely inadequate to the tasks demanded of them in their medical course.

There has been, and in our estimation is still, a laxness shown in admitting students to the medical school, not at all in keeping with the standard of the Professors whose criticisms have been quoted, and entirely out of keeping with the rigors of a final examination. It certainly grates on cultured ears to hear men in the profession speak of the "larnyx" and ask you to feel "them pulse," or look for "them tuberculi bacille," and the institution graduating such men cannot expect to attract brilliant students to it by the excellence of the finished product shown.

The medical student has placed in his hand text-books on all the greater sciences, and on opening them finds them filled with strange words, very often mere transliterations of their classical original, and unless he has become thoroughly familiar with these languages will find himself in a bewildering maze, out of which he can come only by the most determined perseverance and at a cost of mental effort ten times greater than what it would have been had his preliminary education been more complete and the matriculation standard higher. Imagine the mental effort necessary to learn the names and actions of a hundred muscles, such as "Levator labrii superius, alaeque nasi," "Extensor secundi internodii pollices," or "cricocarytenodeus lateralis" on the part of a student with poor preliminary education. and then realize the ease with which they may be memorized by him whose preparation has consisted in a thorough grounding in the classics.