

acted as chairman, and acquitted himself very creditably. His opening address was well received. The vice-chairmen were Messrs. Gilbert Gordon, J. H. Hoover, and Elias Clouse.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor made a very happy speech, in which he expressed the great pleasure he had derived from his attendance at both medical dinners of this year, and his admiration for the ability displayed by the students of both schools.

Hon. Edward Blake spoke kindly of the medical profession, and as an instance of the great influence which its members wielded, referred to the fact that there was no stronger candidate for Parliament than the country doctor. It was the duty of the medical profession to use the influence thus indicated with the highest and loftiest purposes.

Among the other guests who responded to the different toasts were the Hon. John O'Donohoe, Dr. Widdifield, His Worship the Mayor, Hon. G. W. Allan, Dr. W. T. Aikins, Dr. Barrett, Rev. Provost Body, Mr. Buchan, and others.

The interest was well sustained during the whole of the rather long evening, and the entertainment was highly successful in every respect. The only drawback was, as in the case of the Toronto dinner, the undue length of the programme.

#### PROF. STRUTHERS ON MEDICAL EDUCATION IN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES.

At the opening of the winter session of the Aberdeen University, Prof. Struthers delivered an address on "Medical Systems in Canada and America, and that of Great Britain." It will be remembered that the Professor visited Montreal as a member of the British Association, and afterwards spent a few days in Toronto on his way to the Niagara Falls. He stated that he never heard better speaking than at the dinner of the Canadian Medical Association, or more evidence of culture in the profession of any country.

He is pleased with the satisfactory manner in which the preliminary and professional examinations are conducted. He spoke of McGill University as maintaining an excellent standard

in its teachings and examinations, but is of opinion that it needs larger endowments for its scientific chairs.

We are glad that Prof. Struthers has referred to this matter of endowment. Sooner or later the public must learn that in this age a Medical School cannot be properly conducted without a large endowment.

He believes that upon the whole the medical profession in Canada deserves the best sympathy and support from Great Britain in its efforts to maintain a good standard in the face of the depressing tendencies of the system of the neighbouring States of America.

#### UNIVERSITY CONFEDERATION.

Meetings of the representatives of the different colleges in the province were held in the office of the Minister of Education, on the 19th, 20th, and 21st of November to consider the basis on which to form a united Provincial University. After several prolonged sessions, an understanding was arrived at which may lead to the formation of such a basis. The Committee will meet again in four weeks, when we may hope to hear of more definite results.

#### THE DANGERS OF THE ASPIRATOR-NEEDLE.

The use of the aspirator-needle has generally been considered a safe procedure, but it is certainly not perfectly so. Dr. A. Reeves Jackson, of Chicago, reports, in the *Chicago Medical Journal and Examiner*, a case of fatal hæmorrhage following its use in the case of suspected pelvic abscess. The patient was 25 years of age; had one living child, aged 3 years. In August, 1884, had a miscarriage, which was followed by signs of pelvic inflammation. In a few days a soft spot was discovered to the right of and one inch from uterus. The aspirator-needle was introduced under antiseptic precautions. Bleeding from vagina followed, and a tampon was introduced, but, notwithstanding this, the hæmorrhage continued, and about two quarts of bright blood escaped. Death ensued in less than an hour after the operation.