

Canadian students receive a hearty welcome and find the staff, one and all, most anxious to teach and to yield all the aid and all the particulars possible. In this respect Moorfields has for long years stood out in Canadian estimation head and shoulders above the other hospitals in London. Next in repute comes the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children. At one period St. Thomas' Hospital enjoyed a like popularity and not a few of the leading physicians in this city and elsewhere in Canada have owed to Murchison more than they can well declare. But Murchison is long dead and, since then, no single man has arisen either at St. Thomas' or elsewhere in London to take his particular place.

Canadians may go to London willing to pass from hospital to hospital, prepared to spend their days journeying from one end to the other of the great city, now putting in a morning at Guy's, now rushing across to St. George's, now to Bart's and now to Great Ormond Street or Queen's Square. But even if the inevitable waste of time consumed in these journeys does not deter them, they very soon find that the graduate visitor to a clinic or a lecture or an out-patient room, is regarded as "de trop" and what is more,—and more astonishing,—that the teaching is with some few rare exceptions, somewhat perfunctory and not of the best, nor as fresh and up to date as that obtainable even in Toronto or Montreal.

For, to come to the root of the matter, it is undoubtedly the fact that London of all the great cities of the world is the most provincial in matters medical. Each great hospital is a separate entity bound up in itself and its own traditions. From the moment a student enters Bart's, Guy's or St. Thomas' he undergoes sure saturation with the belief that there is no other hospital equal to it,—that the opinions afforded by its teachers are the only correct opinions,—that the traditional and peculiar method of performing this or that operation or of treating this or that disease, is the only proper method, and, as the members of the staff are in the main part drawn from those who have been students of the hospital, and have spent no time in other schools at home or abroad, it follows that the inevitable tendency is for teachers, in their methods and in their teaching, to become hidebound in antiquity and conservatism, save when, in some one or other direction, the innate power of the man raises him above his environment.

And the pity of it is that those teachers and members of the staff are originally some of the most brilliant of British youth. The natural capacity and the education necessary for a man to obtain a leading position in London must be singularly high. But, in general, as we state, from their training, those who become teachers are too satisfied with the position and the traditions of their respective schools to be willing to agree to absorb and to deliver to their students the advances made in diagnosis and treatment, either at rival hospitals or in the world at