

Attention is called to the difficulty, both to student and to teacher, when the former commences a course totally unprepared, so far as preliminary education goes, particularly in the Latin and Greek.

This does not hold good in this country so much as in some of the States, for here in Ontario we can boast of a matriculation second to none on this continent, and holding its own with the best in Europe.

He says: "Intending students of medicine should always have a preliminary course in botany, natural history or biology, and of these three biology is perhaps the most important, including as it does anatomy (macroscopic and microscopic) and physiology, as seen both in animal and vegetable life."

He thinks the professor of anatomy, as well as the one of physiology, chemistry and pathology, should be debarred entirely from private practice. In this way he would be enabled to divide a large class into limited classes for practical purposes, and to devote all his time to them. He thinks, too, that the dissecting should be under the personal direction of the professor, so that work in the dissecting room and in the lecture hall may go hand-in-hand.

The necessity of cleanliness in the dissecting room is pointed out. He says: "Any surgeon might pass from dissecting in my rooms straight to a laparotomy with none but the usual precautions." This speaks volumes for a climate like Galveston.

The necessity for every teacher of medicine and surgery to be well informed upon anatomy is dwelt upon, not only for his own and the benefit of the patient, but also because of the fact that it impresses the student more and more as to the importance of a good knowledge of the subject.

He thinks that the use of diagrams materially assists in fixing the attention when lecturing to a large class. The plan of lecturing from the dissected specimen to a large class he characterizes as "worse than useless." His lectures are regional, and the class is divided according to the part upon which they are working; the lectures are illustrated by numerous diagrams, drawn on the board as he goes along, and all materially assist the student in his dissection.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The *British Medical Journal* is in a position to supply to hospitals gratuitously antitoxin in bulk. They are enabled to do this through the kindness of Dr. Klein, F.R.S., who has produced a satisfactory serum at the Brown Animal Sanatory Institute. The animals used were horses.

A couple of months ago the *Canadian Practitioner* commented on the cost and style of the *Announcement* for 1894. We have little doubt as to their ability in the medical line, but on financing in printing estimates they have shown themselves lamentably ignorant. They said that this *Announcement* should be published for \$126, whereas, with the cost of the stenographic report, the bill was \$544.00. *Verbum sap.*

If the recent council elections have done nothing else, they have done one thing and have done it well, namely, to show electors the folly of promising votes to the first man that comes along. There are men who will sit in the next Council for whom many desired to vote, but they had "promised." It may be a warning to electors in future, and may teach a useful lesson to those who, at a not distant date, may have to decide upon representatives.

On Thursday evening, December 20th, a number of medical men enjoyed a treat on anatomical lines. We know nothing of the number invited to attend this demonstration, but we do know that there would have been a very large attendance if any idea of its character was even mooted about. Dr. Primrose, one of the professors of anatomy of the Toronto University, was the demonstrator, and right well he did his work. The object was to show the able aid there was in photography to teaching. Frozen sections of many kinds had been photographed, and were then displayed by limelight. In many cases the relations between the several parts and the different anatomical organs, were better shown in this way than by the actual section itself. A rather unique portion was the display of a few photographic plates of microscopical specimens, giving the audience a much better idea of giant nerve cells than they can obtain from any plate.