

ture, which may be permanent. This result, when not occurring spontaneously, as it does frequently, no doubt, is due merely to its purgative action, as equally good results may be obtained by the administration of castor oil. The purging removes from the intestinal canal, the decomposing faecal matter, together with the poisonous alkaloids produced by the disease germs, but the calomel can have no power either to inhibit or destroy the micro-organisms themselves.

Then, while neither these nor any other remedies yet discovered, have the least power in aborting typhoid fever, and the present status of therapeutics and pathology offer us little, if any hope of our ever attaining such a consummation, yet our efforts in this direction have not been all a failure. That much has been done to mitigate the disease and reduce the mortality, we have but to consider present results of treatment with those of a decade or two ago. Prevention is, however, the only course that promotes complete satisfaction.

Correspondence.

MEDICAL EDUCATION.

To the Editor of the CANADA LANCET.

SIR,—From what I have been able to learn as to the views of the medical men in this division, in regard to Medical Education, I believe it safe to say, that a considerable majority of them regard, as I do, with anxiety if not alarm, the movement which has made the old Toronto School of Medicine, practically a Government Medical School by making it the Medical Department of the Provincial University, thereby excluding the possibility of other Medical Colleges deriving any benefit from any of those advantages which have been and are now being secured to the Provincial University at the expense of the Province, and which prior to the creation of University Medical Faculty were equally open to all students of Medicine who chose to avail themselves of them, as they should be in a university truly Provincial in its character.

It is difficult to see any good reason why the Government should enter the field of Medical Education and use the resources of the Province in an effort to build up one Medical College, in no respect superior to others, and to "down" the

other chartered Medical Colleges as far as may be in their power to do so. These colleges will come out all right for the sympathy of the Profession and of the public is fully with them.

The public have not asked for this action on the part of the Government and on a popular vote, not two per cent. of the people would vote for it, because they don't want a monopoly or any thing which looks like an attempt to create one, in Medical Education.

The Medical Profession have not asked for it, and on a vote, a large majority would certainly be opposed to it. The minority would consist chiefly of the immediate friends of the one Medical School referred to.

The interests of Medical Education do not call for it. The present position of Ontario in regard to medical matters is extremely good, and the graduates of all her schools take prominent positions in whatever parts of the world they are found. This has arisen in part from the stringent provisions of the "Ontario Medical Act," and in part from the wholesome competition and generous rivalry of its Medical Colleges.

I submit that it is not in the interest of Medical Education that this wholesome competition should be replaced by a would-be monopoly—that our active, energetic Medical Colleges should be injured in any degree by a State-subsidized Institution.

No educated man in, or out of, the profession will question the advisability of affording opportunities for the highest possible education in all the various subjects closely related to medicine; but if the resources of the Province are either directly or indirectly made available for this object, they ought to be so applied that the benefits may be freely and equally available to every student of every medical college in the Province.

The scheme of Medical Education which the Government is apparently trying to carry out is not only grossly unfair to the other Medical Colleges, but is opposed to the wishes of the public at large; is not desired by the medical profession, and is altogether likely ultimately, as a similar policy did long ago, to result in serious injury to the cause of Medical Education in this Province.

Yours, etc.,

WILLIAM T. HARRIS.

Jan. 24th, 1890.