

which are most difficult of comprehension, and which might, for that very reason, seem to be unimportant. It is impossible to get at the pith of a paragraph or sentence without a comparatively perfect understanding of the author's meaning; and in determining this meaning one's whole intellectual nature is trained or educated in a manner excelled only by the pursuit of original investigation. Indeed, during the period of acquisition, it is a better means of education than random attempts at original work for which one is not yet properly prepared. A thorough thinking of previous thought is the best preparation for the most perfect elaboration of one's own thoughts. Besides the educational advantages derived from the preparation of such synopses one is being gradually furnished with a store of condensed knowledge to which reference can readily be made at any future time, and a reference to the leading features of a book will usually be sufficient to suggest most of the important details.

“ALPHA” in our last issue was slightly bilious, and therefore unjust to the students of the Royal. “Have the Arts deserved such treatment as this?” is the question he puts in much of the same tone as Cicero's “Quousque tandem abutere nostra patientia?” What treatment? The Arts students, it seems, are obliged to pay a Gym fee of one dollar a year, whereas the Meds may or may not as suits themselves. This treatment it will be seen is made up of two parts, each independent of the other. If it is right that the Arts men should pay the dollar, let them pay it, without reference to any body else. If Alpha has any doubt on this point, we refer him to the parable of the laborers in the vineyard, and the question of the Master to the discontented, “Is thine eye evil because I am good?” Should there be a fee, then, and is a dollar too

much? — It is surely better to have a fee collected without any trouble, than to worry a committee of students all session with the task of collecting “voluntary gifts.” As to the amount, in most Colleges the Campus and Gym fee amounts to four or five dollars. As to its being annual, how can it be otherwise? The instructor must be paid annually, and Gymnasium apparatus, repairs and footballs are needed annually. In a word, the student that does not get a dollar's worth out of the Campus and Gymnasium in a session, especially when there is such an instructor as Sergeant-Major Morgans, has only himself to blame. Why then should not the fee be levied on the Meds? If it were, the Arts men would not be required to pay a cent less. The classes are large enough now, and if more students sought instruction, the instructor would have to attend more frequently and be paid more. So, it would be as broad as it is long. The present system should therefore be continued until the Meds ask for the imposition of the fee, as the Arts representative men very generally asked last session. “Alpha” should also reflect that the Meds have to pay two or three times as much in fees as Arts men, and that the students of the Royal have always shown themselves ready to contribute their full share to every expenditure, whenever they have been called upon.

THE address delivered by Professor Dupuis in Convocation Hall on University day was so breezy as well as thoughtful, that the *Canada Educational Monthly* is republishing it in full in its December and January issues. Everything that Professor Dupuis writes on Educational Matters is worthy of attention, not only because of his independent tone and his determination to get to principles, but because of his wide and long experience. He has been a teacher all his life, and has taught in the Public and