

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN PRACTITIONER AND REVIEW :

SIR,—Is it not high time that our medical journals and medical associations should discuss the advisability of such legislation as shall prevent the pollution of medical journals and the public press by the disgusting advertisements that have become an intolerable nuisance?—"decayed manhood," "seminal losses," and such like, not to mention the uterine organs and their diseases, set forth by plates and printed descriptions. Is it not time, as well, that legislation insist that the formulæ shall be printed in plain type on the outside wrapper of every bottle and box of patent and proprietary medicines? When the gull of the adventurer has gone so far as to advertise a certain cure for cancer, presenting testimonials in support and selling to the poor dupes at ten dollars a bottle a stuff costing seventy-five cents or a dollar, and actually without good effect, not to speak of the myriad of less presuming and equally worthless trash for every conceivable ailment, bought in prodigal quantities, is it not time that the nefarious business got a set-back? If the ingredients were known the self-inflated bubble would burst; common decency would be respected; the medical profession get a chance in the race, and the nervous, credulous public get something more than whipped sillibut. Besides benefiting those immediately interested, it would be a relief to those weak-minded persons and silly old women who spend their brains in writing and their time in making affidavits, whose whole end is to benefit the manufacturer of the too often useless stuff.

Yours truly,

P. PALMER BURROWS.

Medical Matriculation by Act of Parliament.

A discussion took place one afternoon last week in the Quebec Legislature upon a bill introduced by a member thereof, to permit medical students who commenced study prior to 1899 and who omitted to pass their preliminary examination, to dispense with it. The Hon. Mr. Flynn, leader of the opposition, ridiculed the measure, stating that if this sort of thing were to continue, classical education for entrance to the professions had better be abolished. Hon. Dr. Guerin moved the six months' hoisi, which was adopted by a vote of forty-five to fifteen.