

that it was the first temperance dinner he had ever attended? Temperate it had been to him and those near him, but as he stood up and looked before him, if the array of dark-colored bottles was any indication, then it was not a temperance dinner.

The worthy professor said that as his little speech was the first he had made in Montreal, he felt that a little stimulant would not be a bad tonic. A representative of a rival Medical school having become surreptitiously possessed of some of the article, passed it to him. The compliment was appreciated, and showed the full confidence he placed in the people among whom he had come to live. No suspicion of a poisoned cup troubled his mind, even although it came from an opposition member.

Bishop's College was the first to start annual Students' Dinners, and it was fully intended that they should be on temperance principles; others followed, and McGill at all events followed closely in the temperance line. For the first two or three years, so far as having anything of the character of wine on the table, their temperance character was pretty well observed. But oh, what a terrible lot of men the students had to go and see.

Now, their apparently temperance character is not so marked, but we question if less liquor is not drank. Certain, at all events, they are a vast improvement on the old time "footing spree."

The Medical Staff of the Ottawa Protestant Hospital have had a tussle with the outside profession, and have come off second best. The outsiders complain that only the Staff are permitted to attend patients in the private wards of the Hospital. In other words that an yone who,

either from choice or force of circumstances, occupies a private ward, must select his Medical attendant from the Hospital Staff.

This is a monopoly with a vengeance, and we congratulate the profession in Ottawa that they have at last had courage to protest against it. Their courage also carried their point. At a meeting of the local Medical Society held on the 14th January, the matter was brought up for discussion. A telegram to a Montreal paper says, the debate lasted "five and a half hours, and was of a very lively character." A resolution of the Society, expressing itself in favor of the private wards being thrown open to all legally qualified medical men in Ottawa, was carried by a large majority.

Then a new and unexpected change of base was inaugurated. The outside doctors said they would be willing to forego what they had been contending for, if private wards were abolished. The opinion was expressed that such wards should not be connected with a Hospital supported by public subscription. A resolution to that effect was unanimously passed.

What a singular termination! To us it looks like the Hospital Staff, finding themselves beaten, had cunningly laid a trap into which the outsiders stupidly fell; that they would rather have the private wards abolished than allow outside men to use them for their patients. In gaining this point, however, all who voted for it committed themselves to an expression of opinion which will find few sympathisers.

That opinion was adverse to the establishment of private wards. In this they are wrong. Private wards are in reality an essential part of all hospitals, especially in large cities. They, however, never