

ness should always have some one in constant attendance who can become responsible for the care of the patient during his absence, and to whom he can give the proper directions, feeling sure that they will be carried out to the letter. It is evident that a member of the family is not the proper person for such a trust; since anxiety, timidity, and the entreaties of the patient may warp the judgment. The value of a well-trained nurse can not be overestimated, being second only to that of the physician. A circumstance is related as having occurred in one of the New York hospitals, which goes far to prove this assertion. A patient operated upon soon after began to bleed from one of the larger vessels in the neck. In a few seconds, even before the house surgeon could have reached him, he would have been dead. With rare presence of mind, the nurse thrust her fingers into the wound, compressed the bleeding vessel, and saved the patient's life. Of course, none but a person trained for such emergencies would have thought of this.

Besides providing for the public poor, efficient nurses, and for the community the opportunity of obtaining competent help in the sick-room, the scheme opens an honorable and most useful avocation for woman, and one that in time will become remunerative to those who pursue it. That it is considered respectable is shown by the fact that there has been no lack of applicants for the position from among all classes of the community. The calling should, and will rank as a profession second only to that of the physician.

Much good work in this relation has already been done in our own hospital in this city. Well trained nurses are being provided as rapidly as the opportunities will permit, so that physicians can be supplied almost at a moment's notice with a trained nurse competent to undertake any case either medical or surgical. This is a most gratifying circumstance to the profession, and one for which they have to thank the worthy Medical Superintendent and Trustees of the Toronto General Hospital, and those who have aided in the instruction and qualification of the nurses.

ANNUAL MEDICAL BANQUETS.

The annual banquets of the students of the medical schools of this city were held on the evenings of the 24th and 26th ult., respectively. The din-

ner of the students of the Toronto School of Medicine was the first to take place and was largely attended. The chair was occupied by Mr. Peaker. In his opening address he alluded to the success of the school and the high standing the students had taken both at home and abroad, and stated that there were 225 students enrolled on the books. He then proposed the toast of "The Queen," which was duly honored. The toast of the "Universities and Colleges" was responded to by Rev. Dr. Castle of McMaster Hall, Rev. Father Teefty of St. Michael's, and Mr. Baker of University College.

Dr. Castle insisted upon the importance of broad and generous scholarship as opposed to one-sided education. The universities and colleges were conservators of education. The noblest adornment of any country was its wealth of education. The most material wealth was what appeared most immaterial. The best preparation for any profession was a thorough training given in the arts course. If there was any danger, it was that of turning the arts courses into semi-professional, under the plea that they are the honour courses. The honour ought to be for excellence in all the courses. Rev. Father Teefty said that the students should think first of their country and next of their university. He spoke of the necessity of wise and prudent words and moderate councils, especially in great cities. Mr. Baker said he hoped the recent changes in the regulations for matriculation would increase the number of medical students of the University.

The Mayor responded for the city, and said he was happy to be able to express his opinion that the students had nothing to do with the recent outrage.

"The Sister Institutions" was responded to by Dr. Fulton and Mr. McEdward for Trinity, Mr. Worthington for McGill, Mr. Cregan for the Royal, of Kingston, and Mr. Balfour for the Western, of London. Dr. Fulton's theme was the necessity for a uniform standard of matriculation; there were too many varying standards. He congratulated the students on the excellent opportunity which the hospital afforded for clinical instruction.

"Our Faculty" was responded to by Drs. Richardson and Graham. Dr. Richardson pleaded for State aid in the study of the organisms to which