

which are to be derived from the material which is so abundantly supplied. Other cities, pre-eminently Toronto, are putting forward their claims, and unless Montreal chooses to be guided by plain common sense, we hesitate not to assert that the numbers who yearly come hither for the purposes of Medical instruction will before long be very sensibly diminished. In making this statement, we do so advisedly, for within the last few years, but especially this fall, there has been very loud murmuring, and much disapproval expressed at the facilities afforded at the Montreal General Hospital for the purpose of Clinical instruction. Those who have thus expressed themselves have for several years seen this grievance gradually growing worse, till this winter it has become so conspicuous and so aggravating that in the interest of the students and in the interest of the city, as a place of Medical education, we feel called upon to take notice of it. We know that a portion of the profession of the city will probably misconstrue our motives and assert that we desire to find places on the staff of the Hospital for some members of the Faculty of the Medical School with which we are connected. We repudiate at once any such intention, and assert that the views we now enunciate have been held by us, and freely expressed upon every fitting occasion, during the past eight years. We feel, and our opinion has been arrived at after seeing the working of both methods, and a mature consideration of the subject, that it is contrary to the spirit of the age that Universities should in the smallest degree exercise control over clinical teaching. Having said so much by way of introduction let us proceed to the more practical part of our subject. The Montreal General Hospital—a noble institution—has supplied the clinical material, or the greater portion of it, which has educated a host of Medical men who are now scattered throughout the length and breadth of the Dominion. Twelve years ago, when we attended it for the last time as a student, the number of indoor patients was very considerably less than they are now, while as regards students we are not beyond the mark when we state that then there was fully forty to fifty less than this winter. Even at that time among those who were anxious to benefit themselves to the fullest possible extent, there was a feeling, often expressed, that from the over-crowding of the wards with students, much of the instruction which should have been obtainable was lost. Year after year this state of things has gradually been getting worse, till now it is a common thing to hear it expressed by some of the more diligent students, that the time they are

compelled to pass at the Hospital is, for the reason we have given, so much time wasted. The cause of this is so plain that some of the Committee of Management of the Hospital have had their attention drawn to the matter, and have suggested the proper remedy—an increase in the staff of attending Physicians. At the present moment the Hospital staff is composed of eight active or working members, and two of them attend for three months. The manner in which this duty is, and always has been performed is deserving of every praise; but as only two attend at one time, there are at present fully fifty students or more following each physician. This fact carries with it a force of argument that no additional words of ours can possibly strengthen, and proves the necessity which exists for an increase in the staff of Physicians. We hold the opinion, and it is shared by the majority of students themselves, that if fifty of them follow one physician around the wards of an Hospital they will derive but a *modicum* of the benefit which should be obtainable from even the ordinary material to be found in Hospitals. The matter is an important one in the interest of our city continuing to maintain its ascendancy in the matter of Medical education, and the truth of our remarks can be verified at any time by those who will take the trouble to visit the Institution.

PERSONAL.

On the 12th November, among other operations in the St. Patrick's Department of the Hotel Dieu Hospital, Dr. Hingston had a case of lithotomy, in a child of one year, wherein the stone was supposed to date from birth. The stone was hard, and was about the size of the shell of a pea-nut. It was extracted by means of a thin scoop of horn, so that there was no undue dilatation of the wound, a point of some importance.

Dr. Hingston recently removed the greater part of the lower jaw, and the whole of the tongue at its roots. The patient, a man of fifty, made a rapid recovery.

Dr. Powell, of Victoria, British Columbia, has been appointed Superintendent of Indian affairs in that Province. We congratulate our class-mate upon this recognition of his abilities.

Dr. J. H. Wright, son of Dr. H. H. Wright, of Toronto, has received the appointment of House Surgeon to the Victoria Park Hospital, London, England.