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EP!TORS:

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Dr. Brock will draw upon unpaid subscribers through the express expany in the course of a few days, and hopes that the amount of their subscription will be paid immediately.

HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT.

According to Chambers, "The primary or more important object of all hospitals, is to mitigate bodily suffering, while they are also serviceable as schools for medicine and surgery, where professors can practically educate their pupils, by pointing out varieties of disease and injuries, and exemplifying methods of treatment. As means of relief, and schools of medicine, they appear to be absolutely essential to every dense community."

Now we beg leave to direct the attention of hospital managers and attendants, to what appears to be a recognized principle in all civilized countries but Ontario, and thus clearly and forcibly expressed by the celebrated Scotchman, and we are glad to learn that the Trustees of the Toronto General Hospital are just now trying to effect some change in the system of attendance at that institution whereby its clinical advantages can be more fully utilized than at present, and we hope they will carry out their patriotic design without "fear, favor, or affection;" but we have been surprised to hear that strong opposition is shown towards any change, although complaint is continually made, that our Ontario students seek at other institutions, that clinical instruction which is denied them at home, while the majority of those who go elsewhere for their medical education, give that as their sole reason.

In our simplicity we supposed that as one of the primary objects of an hospital, was to train and educate those who might be called to assume the care and protection of the community, in times of sickness and epidemic danger, those who accepted hospital appointments (especially if connected with medical schools) would be will-

ing, in view of the honor of the position, to make some sacrifice of personal ease and convenience, in order that all the advantages of the institution as a school of observation and discipline might be developed to the utmost degree; but forsooth, we are told (we hope incorrectly) that all these objects are subordinate to the convenience of the medical officers, and that our Ontario students must continue to go to Montreal, Kingston, or New York, where people are not "characterized by a mad contempt for experience."

Now, we have as strong a veneration for old landmarks and customs as any man, but when they become so covered with moss as to mar the value and efficiency of the public institutions of our own day, we would not hesitate to do away with the "foudal ant: nities."

The present system of hospital attendance did very well, years ago, when we had few or no medical schools to be injured by it; but for many years, all connected with our teaching bodies have felt that the Toronto Hospital did not furnish that clinical instruction which an institution of its size and importance might afford, but no one felt willing to incur the odium which it was known would attach to whoever initiated the movement to change the time-honored but viciou system. All honor to the Trustees who have the moral courage to approach the matter!!

As far as we can understand the system proposed, it is similar to that which has been in successful operation in other Canadian and American hospitals for years; and if it works so well elsewhere as to continually draw away our Western students, we can see no reason why it should not work well in Toronto. But there is one feature in the proposed scheme to which we would object; that is, the transfer of all the patients in the hospital from each man to his successor, with each change of periodical attendance. We think # would be better, were each man allowed to retain, at his option, all admitted by him, until they passed off by recovery or death, as by that means the gentleman retiring from the admitting period, would be brought back to the hospital occasionally, and the students would thus be enabled to watch to its conclusion the treatment initiated and pursued by each man; and it would be well to arrange so that the retiring attendant should visit at an hour immediately after or before the admitting physician We think in this way a greater amount of clinical instruction can be furnished, and a greater number of clinical lectures can be illustrated, than under the transfer system; and we hope the time will soon come when the Trustees will compel ever