

the present frantic efforts of Homœopaths and Eclectics to effect its subversion. We earnestly hope their sinister attempts will prove in vain, and trust the general profession will arouse themselves throughout the length and breadth of that splendid Province, and save it and themselves from the hands of such shameless destroyers.

Situated as we are in Quebec, we have a special interest in watching the workings of Medical Acts in our sister Provinces. We need some changes in our own code, and it is high time we were bestirring ourselves to obtain them. There should be with us, as in other civilized communities, but one portal to the practice of medicine, *i. e.*, by an examination passed before a central examining board. If the establishment of such a board for the whole Dominion of Canada cannot be attained, let us, as we are competent so to do, establish it in our own Province. The adoption of this course would annihilate quackery here, as is now being accomplished in Ontario. Much more might be said upon this subject, but it is time we passed on to the consideration of other matters.

It is naturally expected that your attention upon this occasion should be drawn to the great importance of the final branches of your profession. In the able introductory to our last session, the necessity of being thoroughly acquainted with the primary branches was insisted upon, and rightly too, as the foundation upon which the whole superstructure rests. Let me recommend you once more, not to be attracted from the course then urged upon you; for the final branches are but the complement, so to speak, of the primary, and of themselves can never constitute the complete physician. The one is the skeleton, the vertebræ, the very basis of the being, the other the flesh, the external form, which constitutes the beauty and perfection of the whole.

Students sometimes wonder that each professor exalts the importance of his own subject; but it could not, and should not be otherwise. The professor as he meditates upon and discusses his own special subject becomes more and more impressed with its value, and sees in it beauties and attractions unobserved by others. Now, while the successful practice of medicine most undoubtedly does rest upon a thorough knowledge of the primary branches; yet is it also true, that such success can only follow where there is a thorough and rational apprehension of the principles of the final branches.

The unfolding of the charms and deeply interesting attractions ranged before your mental vision by our respected dean, Dr. David, the professor of that

most important subject, will, I am sure, be appreciated by you as the chief corner-stone of your professional education.

Upon surgery any remark is almost superfluous. Nothing will contribute more to your success than such acquaintance with its theory and practice as will make you able to render prompt and efficient aid when called upon. The triumphs of surgery are neither few nor small, and these will be vividly placed before you by its esteemed professor, Dr. Godfrey. But, gentlemen, while it is worthy of all the honor and benedictions heaped upon its successful votaries, you must bear in mind that its triumphs are apparent, and seize more quickly upon the public mind than other work but little recognized, perhaps, because accomplished in greater seclusion. With regard to Medical Jurisprudence you will do well to give such attention to the subject as not only to reflect credit upon the able professor of that branch of your studies, Dr. Gardner, but also to save yourselves from much humiliation when interrogated as a skilled witness in courts of Law. Hygiene is a branch of great importance, as you will be sure to think when its intimate connection with advanced civilization and national prosperity is brought to your notice by your worthy professor, Dr. Leprohon. It is a subject to which he has devoted special attention, and while an acquaintance with it is rightly insisted upon by this University, I am sure you will at the same time find the course deeply interesting, and your minds stored with most valuable and practical information.

Pathology is another subject specially taught in this school as in the schools of Europe, and as it shortly will be in every well conducted school in Canada, its importance demands for its consideration more than a few cursory lectures appended to the course upon Physiology or the practice of Medicine. It is one of those branches you must know if you would be successful, or worthy of your name. Much attention is required in pursuing your preliminary researches, but when once comprehended, your progress will be pleasant and profitable, especially so under the painstaking labors of Dr. Wilkins, who so creditably occupies that chair.

But, gentlemen, valuable and necessary as is a thorough acquaintance with all these, yet another subject takes a paramount place, and claims a few moments consideration on the present occasion. The art of Obstetrics, and the treatment of diseases peculiar to women and children, have made immense progress during the last few years. A more correct appreciation obtains as to what nature can accom-