

BOWLING (W. K.)
*Who was the Editor at
this time*

[FROM THE NASHVILLE JOURNAL OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY.]

*W. K. Bowling, assisted by
A
Paul F. Enc.*

REPLY

TO THE

ST. LOUIS MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL

BY THE EDITOR

OF THE

NASHVILLE JOURNAL OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY.



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Bowling (W. K.)*

NASHVILLE:

CAMERON & FALL, BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS, CORNER COLLEGE AND UNION STREETS.

1855.

[FROM THE NASHVILLE JOURNAL OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY.]

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[FROM THE KANSAS JOURNAL OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY]

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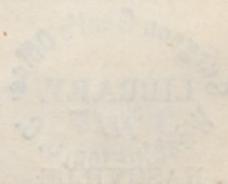
TO THE

ST. LOUIS MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL

BY THE EDITOR

OF THE

KANSAS JOURNAL OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY.



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1911

REPLY.

ST. LOUIS—DR. McMcELWRATH, AND THE OTHER SIDE OF JORDAN.

A distinguished United States Senator, about being very politely instructed out of office by the State Legislature, began his reply to the assembled wisdom by stating that he never suffered any man, or body of men, to surpass him in politeness. Now, as to "captions," we some time ago determined that none should surpass us, but we are not so sure but we shall have to yield the palm to one of the quadruple corps editorial of the St. Louis Medical and Surgical Journal. "Faith, he'll worry us." The last number of this excellent periodical contains an editorial headed "NASHVILLE VS. PHILADELPHIA AND THE REST OF CREATION!" A real bugle note, that. In the beginning, soft as the murmur of the wing of the humming bird—swelling and deepening as it lengthens, until it grows so big "it can't grow any bigger," and looses its sweetness alone in the unreverberating interspaces of revolving worlds. We despair of equaling that caption, and we desire the one which we have placed at the head of this article shall not be regarded as an effort in that direction. The editor quotes a part of our article headed "FULFILMENT OF PROPHECY," in our January number, where we allude to the competition between Nashville and Philadelphia, and comments as follows:

"Whether we regard the above merely as a specimen of grand and lofty boasting, or as an exquisitely touching appeal to sectional prejudice, it is equally inimitable in the one case or the other. It reminds us very much of an anecdote

that we remember once to have heard, and which also occurred in Tennessee. On a certain occasion, during court week, in Sullivan county, when there was a large crowd collected in and about the court yard, a celebrated braggart, who seemed anxious to impress the by-standers with the belief that he was a real fire eater, stepped out in front of the crowd and with a loud voice, exclaimed, *WO BE TO SULLIVAN COUNTY IF I STRETCH MY ARM IN HER THIS DAY!!* And yet, as the story goes, before night he was whipped five times and driven off the ground.

"Really, the extravagant pretensions set up by Nashville strikes us in no other light than as supremely ridiculous, but while we thus speak, we certainly have no disposition whatever to underrate the real merits of Nashville as a point of medical education; on the contrary, we admit that it is well situated for that purpose, and that the gratifying success which has thus far attended the efforts to establish a school there, proves beyond question that a flourishing institution may be built up and sustained at that point. We admit, moreover, that the faculty is composed of men of talents and indomitable energy; (but as for their modesty and good taste, if the article before us is to be regarded as a specimen, we cannot say so much.) But while we cheerfully concede all this and more besides, in reference to Nashville, we are very far from believing that the rays of medical science are all to be conveyed to that point, and that there is to be established *the one great National Medical University.*"

The capitals in the Sullivan county man's case are the editor's, not ours. Our friend would intimate by the capitals that he had delivered himself of a capital joke—one remarkably apropos. We knew a good old Judge of this State, who was remarkable for telling very funny anecdotes, as *he thought*—but his listeners could only tell when he had got through by his own uproarious ha! ha!! which generally set them all to ha haing *at him*. Our friend may succeed very well in unadorned, easy writing, but we assure him that anecdote is not his *forte*. His Sullivan county man, as we shall show, like himself, boasted *a priori*, and was thrashed soundly. But suppose he had knocked half a hundred of the belligerents into the middle of next year, and walked off "cock of the walk," and afterwards been provoked to allude, *a posteriori*, to his victory, what extraordinary *boasting* would there have been in that? Our good friend,

like most other people given to hunting up the vices of others, becomes singularly oblivious of his own. Should it in any degree contribute to mend his manners, our labor in hunting up and transcribing evidences of his own indulgence in the villainous virtue of which he complains, will not be without its reward. The annual announcements of the medical department of the University of St. Louis, collected together in a bound volume now before us, we venture to assert without the fear of successful contradiction, for parade, boasting, pretension, wiring in and wiring out, are unsurpassed either in the "regular," "irregular," or "defective" medical archives of the world, and to less purpose, or at least with less effect. Containing as they do a history of a Jesuit University attempting the establishment of a medical department in a magnificent city, with a corps of Professors of acknowledged ability, they prove that success, from the very beginning of the enterprise to the present, bears an inverse proportion to the boasting and braggardism that were madly and pertinaciously urged as a means of securing it. Compared with our own announcements, (to which, under the circumstances, we may be permitted to allude,) where comparatively nothing is promised, and where a page or two suffice for all we have to say, the rule would seem to hold in medical colleges, which the wise in other pursuits acknowledge and venerate, that "in the long run, honesty is the best policy." Thus, comparing the announcement of the University of Nashville for the past session (1854-5) with that of the University of St. Louis for the same year, we find as follows:

"Annual Catalogue and Announcement of the Medical Department of the St. Louis University." We find here no less than nine closely printed pages, "announcing" what wonderful things they are doing and can do in "this institution," while two pages and a small fraction suffice for the "catalogue."

"Annual Announcement and Catalogue of the Medical Department of the University of Nashville" for the same year. Here *two* pages are employed in the announcement, while *six* and a fraction are necessary for the catalogue—and our

announcement and catalogue go out this year with *one* page and a half devoted to the former, and no less than *eight* are required for the latter. We now come to speak of the *matter* of these interminable "announcements," premising that it is our intention to do so in no spirit of fault-finding, and that nothing could have persuaded us to the undertaking, save such an editorial as we have quoted above.

It may be curious to the uninitiated, admitting the unadulterated brass necessary for the undertaking, to know how one Faculty could employ *nine* mortal pages in self-gratulation, and that, too, in the very teeth of a regular series of defeats and disasters—by what process are they enabled to spin out the web to so interminable a length. We own, with Burn's Dog, that it is almost past our comprehension, and would utterly despair of our ability to unravel the mystery, were we not aware that "Professors," like ordinary specimens of humanity, are not altogether unmindful of passing events outside their curriculum, or slow to appropriate from the business world around them whatever might tend to advance "medical science," "elevate the profession," or swell the class of "this institution." Dr. Holmes, in his poem read to the American Medical Association, speaks of men having their "blankets taken off" and "trotted out to show their paces." It is an illustration drawn from the race course. We propose showing that the University of St. Louis, in its announcements, must have taken many practical hints from the circus. A part of the entertainment at this popular amusement, after the spotted man has exhibited the equestrian excellencies of his troupe, and the horses have been taken from the ring, consists in "grand and lofty tumbling." A carpet strip is spread across the ring, from the horse "institution" towards the "public." The spotted man re-appears at the "institution" end of the strip at the head of his troupe, all dressed to the skin in flesh colored material, and each wearing a breech-cloth to hide his seeming nakedness. The spotted man 'announces' them as his family, and in a little speech indicates what wonderful feats his folks are capable of achieving. Pointing to the tall man who heads the family,

the tall man ambles forward to mid-way the strip, falls upon his belly, rears up his head and heels till they meet over his back, poises for a moment on his navel, suddenly recoils, springs to his feet, leaps six feet in the air and makes a graceful bow, which says as plain as speech, "didn't I do it slick?" and walks back to his comrades. The next in order ambles forward, throws a couple of somersets forward, as many backward, springs nine feet up and says by his bow, "what do you think of that?" Then comes a third, walking on his hands, his heels nearly touching his head—now poises on one hand, now on the other—presto—he is in the air—on his back—on his belly—on his head—on his heels—now a flip-flap—now eels in the mud. The assembly are in raptures, and No. 3 retires amid uproarious applause and joins his comrades. No. 4 is the india rubber man. His feet gradually recede from each other, until he represents an inverted \perp —then by aid of his hands he hangs each heel over his neck and leaning forward, lies flat upon his face—now he swells—now he collapses, when suddenly each limb flies to its place, Coautchouc is himself again, and looking to the life the thought, "ain't I some pumpkins?" A spring board is now introduced at the farther end of the strip, with a horse and stuffed saddled beside it. No. 5 runs forward, jumps upon the spring board, rebounds fifteen feet high, throws two somersets in mid air, and lights upon the opposite side of the horse. No. 6 performs a similar feat, with the addition of a third somerset before alighting. No. 7 is the flying man. At a single bound he is on the spring board, flies upward, alights upon the horse, ballancing on his big toe, bows to the spectators—is falling from the horse, his heels in the air and his head will certainly be broken against the board—no—his heels touched first—again he is in the air—the spectators grow dizzy with his rapid somersets, and scream, stamp, and clap with delight, until exhausted, the flying man, flushed with exertion and triumph, joins the "family." The horse and spring board are removed. All eyes are turned to No. 8, expecting nothing less than that he is to swallow himself, or at least to turn himself wrong-side-out. Young ladies, in

anticipation, with averted faces press the Otto-scented kerchief to the rouge, to shut out the horrible spectacle of gizzard, liver and lights, exposed to human view. But nothing is further from the intention of No. 8. He is the plate spinner, and bell and ball man. A plate is ballanced on the end of a long pole and set a spinning. The plate end of the pole ascends higher and higher, and the plate spins faster and faster. Placing the other end of the pole on his chin, the plate spinner walks backward and forth on the strip to the admiration of all. Laying aside the pole and plate, the performer drops suddenly on his knees, a basket of hollow brass balls is emptied before him, and instantly they are seen flying over his head. A half dozen balls are passing from the right hand, high over head, to his left, while a counter current is passing from left to right. Now they represent golden wheels revolving in opposite directions—now ellipses—now a pyramid, until exhaustion compels the plate spinning, bell and ball man to rise and bow himself back.—The spotted man now informs the spectators that “the performance is concluded for this evening, that something new will come off to-morrow night, when he hopes to see them again, but if providentially hindered they can send half a dollar, which will be considered a satisfactory apology.”

The reader will not fail to recognize the reflection of the above picture in the following extracts, which we make from the annual announcement of the St. Louis University for 1854 and '55.

In the first place, we have a circular of nearly four pages signed by the Dean. From this we learn that “since the first organization of the school there has been a steady annual increase in the size of the classes; but during the past session the number of students in attendance was augmented beyond that of any other period.” One would think if the first part of this sentence was correct, the truth of the latter follows as a matter of course, and there could be no possible necessity for introducing it at all, much less for prefacing it with a “but.” If from the beginning there had been “a steady annual increase in the size of the classes,” it follows of course

that the last class must have been the largest, as much so as that the first class must have been the smallest. The Dean then proceeds to say:

"With no desire, therefore, to enter into unbecoming rivalry with other Institutions, and still less with a disposition to magnify themselves, the Faculty, nevertheless, think it not improper to set forth some of the advantages which St. Louis possesses as a point of Medical instruction. It is centrally situated, has more than 110,000 inhabitants, and is the distributing point for the vast emigration to the Great West. From these sources arise clinical facilities of no inconsiderable magnitude. Without such facilities, the student cannot acquire a correct habit of observation, nor that familiar knowledge of disease, which are essential to satisfaction and confidence in the active exercise of his profession, and which give him an unquestionable advantage over those who have no practical acquaintance with disease at the bed-side."

The Dean goes on to enumerate the various hospitals to which the students have access. 1st. The St. Louis Hospital "under the exclusive control of the Faculty during the entire year." Here we are informed "the page of disease is continually exhibited to the student, to be read in all its phases."

Next we are informed the "City Hospital, during the whole term, is under the management of some one of the Faculty."

3d. The United States Marine Hospital—"Here, as well as at the two preceding Hospitals, students are at all times admitted free of charge."

4th. Lying-in Hospital, the physician to which, we learn, will be "glad to extend its practical benefits to all students, upon the payment of a small fee."

5th. The O'Fallen Clinic and Dispensary."

6th. "Anatomical Material in St. Louis is both cheap and abundant." Few will be disposed to doubt this, after learning the Hospital arrangements in St. Louis, and that the Lying-in Hospital is "*glad*" to extend its PRACTICAL benefits to ALL students, "*upon the payment of a small fee.*" The Dean then alludes to the Museum, and to the fact that most of the collections "are from the establishments of Guy Aine and Thibert, of Paris."

We have not quoted this to find fault with it, but merely to

show that the "*points*" are by no means neglected. The Dean, after the usual notice in regard to terms, &c., retires for the present.

Next, under the head "of synopsis" of Lectures, the Professors, in regular rotation, are unblanketed and trotted out, each labelled with his name in bold capitals, beneath his professorship in modest talics. 1st. We have the chair of practice. Its occupant we are told "will devote the first month of the session to the development of the general principles of Pathology, viz: the nature of disease, the classification of its elements, with their causes, symptoms, and curative indications. The subject of special Pathology," &c., &c. In other words, the Professor will not teach mathematics or astronomy.

Next, we have the Professor of Chemistry. "The department of Chemistry will be devoted to the instruction of the student in the more general laws connected with the molecular relations of matter.

"The properties of light, heat, and electricity, under its various forms, will be experimentally illustrated by means of a complete and well selected apparatus, and the various properties and compounds of the different elementary substances will be explained and brought before the student, so as to afford him a knowledge of this important branch, which will fully enable him to comprehend, and take an interest in, the invaluable facts with which it is constantly enriching every department of medical science." From this we learn that Chemistry will be taught from this chair, and not Anatomy. Then the Surgeon is introduced. Here a full page is employed in telling what he will do. "The earlier part of the course is to be devoted to Minor Surgery; the application of bandages and apparatus being systematically made on the living subject." We are further informed that it is an endeavor "to remedy a prevailing defect!" "All the operations are given upon the cadaver, in connection with the affections which require them. In this manner the student obtains a clearer idea of the indications for, and methods of, their performance, than is done by the *ordinary plan*."

“Ninety UNEQUALLED preparations in wax of the diseases of the eye.” “The eye as well as the ear is addressed, as far as possible, and every part of the course is illustrated by constant reference to an UNEQUALLED collection of magnified paintings and drawings, &c. “The Professor’s extensive private collection of instruments, apparatus, and preparations, is annually augmented by importations from the Parisian and other European manufactories.” “Extra hours are employed towards the close of the term in accustoming the candidates for graduation to the use of the knife, in the recapitulation upon the dead subject, before the class, of all the various surgical operations. From some experience in this course, it is found to be most advantageous to the student.” “All the late improvements and new operations in Surgery are insisted on,” &c., &c. The italics and capitals are ours.

No. 4—Comes the Obstetrician. He tells us he “will lecture on—

1st. The anatomy of the Pelvis and soft parts.” This we think a capital idea, because if he had lectured first on the skull, the rapidity of his progress would have been retarded, though the bones which compose the skull not unfrequently enclose the “soft parts.”

No. 5—Introduces Physiology and Medical Jurisprudence. “He divides the subject of inquiry into three great divisions. The first comprehends *Comparative or Modified Life*. Under this head the terms Life, Physiology, Biology, Zoology, Comparative Anatomy, are defined and classified in their relative bearings. Vegetable Physiology is dwelt upon in its connection with life—differences between organic and inorganic matter—elementary parts of animals, plants and inorganic matter—man, position in the scale of animated being—Ethnology—cessation of this life, called death.”

No. 6—Materia Medica. We are happy to learn that “the lectures on this branch embrace the description of remedial agents—the general principles of Therapeutics—the indications which medicines are capable of fulfilling, and the laws governing the application of remedies.”

No. 7—General, Descriptive and Surgical Anatomy. “This

branch of study is one for the pursuit of which St. Louis affords advantages unsurpassed by any other city of the Union. It is the object of the Professor to make the students of his class thoroughly acquainted with every point connected with the structure of the human frame.

“By means of demonstrations on the subject, carefully-executed drawings and preparations, every region is fully represented—particular attention being devoted to the relative position and relations of those parts which are more likely to be the seat of disease or of operation.

“The great object is to impart to the student the amount of anatomical knowledge which alone can give him confidence in himself, when called upon, either to diagnosticate disease, or to remove it.”

No. 8—Clinical Medicine. “Impressed with the paramount importance of bed-side instruction, and in order to meet the just demands of the profession, as embodied in the recommendations of the National Medical Association, the Trustees of this Institution, some years ago, established a chair to be devoted exclusively to the important subjects of *Clinical Medicine* and *Morbid Anatomy*. Regarding the time usually devoted in our schools to these practical branches as far too limited to enable the student to derive the full benefit from the personal observation of disease at the bed-side—which all must admit to be essential to a thorough medical education—they saw no other way by which the evil could be obviated than by the creation of this distinct speciality. Having access to the wards of two large and well-regulated Hospitals, the Professor in charge of this department spends an hour every morning, before the regular daily lectures in the College commence, at the bed-side, in giving a thorough course of demonstrative medicine, pointing out how to observe and what to observe in disease, the proper mode of examining patients, as well as the arts of diagnosis and prescribing. During these visits, the students are frequently questioned, and called on to state the indications which present themselves, as well as the best mode of answering existing indications; the object being to afford facilities for ac-

quiring an intimate acquaintance with the various phases and phenomena presented by disease. Due attention is also paid to physical exploration as a means of diagnosis, to the use of the stethoscope, urinometer, &c., &c."

No. 9—Practical Anatomy. "The Dissecting rooms are finely lighted by gas."

In the announcement for 1849 and '50, the class having risen to 102, and the number of graduates to 22, visions of coming glory take possession of the Faculty, and they declare it their intention to spare no effort to "MAKE ST. LOUIS THE MEDICAL, AS SHE IS THE COMMERCIAL, METROPOLIS OF THE WEST." In 1852, we, having a better reason for the faith that was in us, declared the same thing of Medicine in regard to Nashville. We have reason to recollect how our declaration was received by the University of St. Louis. After so mortifying a failure to make good her boast, one would think she might observe a little modesty towards those who, if they did boast, made good their words.

In their announcement for 1843-4, they say in their circular they have "some important intelligence to impart to the friends of the Institution and of medical science." They were too modest, however, to impart this important intelligence themselves "to the friends of the institution *and of medical science*," but add that "it will be found in the course of this circular in the announcement of the board of Trustees." What this important information is, we are unable to find in the announcement aforesaid, unless it be the following: "The connection of the institution with the City Hospital, furnishing admirable opportunities for clinical instruction, is ONE OF MANY FACILITIES IT ENJOYS IN A GREATER DEGREE THAN ANY OF ITS SISTER SCHOOLS IN THE NEIGHBORING STATES!" There is a specimen of modesty worthy of preservation, and yet those who perpetrate it have the audacious effrontery to charge others with a want of good taste and of modesty! We suppose they claim to be modest for mentioning only ONE OF THE MANY FACILITIES WHICH THAT PARTICULAR SCHOOL IN ST. LOUIS "enjoyed in a greater degree than any of its *sister schools in the neighboring States*. What, pray, were these other facilities

over those enjoyed by the Louisville Institute? It is positively amusing to think that these high sounding words were put into a circular accompanying a catalogue of 31 students, and a graduating class of nine!—and Louisville Institute the same year having a class of 286.

It is but justice to St. Louis University to say, in much of this parade of Professors, and what they were going to do, she had the example of the all absorbing Jefferson Medical School. But, then, Jefferson, while her taste was out of the question, enjoyed the largest classes of any school in America, and had some excuse for talking pretty largely, but the imitative croaking of the poor little St. Louis University, from her slough of despond, was the very last phase of the ridiculous. We are not in the habit of giving advice gratis, and St. Louis University would find it to her interest to pay us for this, if she would faithfully follow it. Printer's ink has utterly failed to enable her to get salt for her johnny-cake. She has tried it faithfully. She has bragged, boasted, *lumbered* with it. But it was no go. The students were summoned from the vasty deep of the wilderness around her, but they wouldn't come. Brummel found a charm in starch. Now let our St. Louis University friends try *chalk!* Let each of the Professors chalk his name and vocation on his hat. This done, make a pilgrimage on foot through every village and hamlet in Missouri, Kansas and Illinois. It would not pay expenses to come out this way. If that failed to raise a class we would be willing to forfeit our reputation as a prophet—a reputation, by the way, now well established.

What our friend means by "all the rays of medical science being conveyed to Nashville," we do not very well comprehend. From his identifying the friends of the St. Louis University with the friends of medical science, it is not impossible that he means that we contemplate making a descent upon his establishment, as the focus of medical science, kidnaping its devout worshipers, and spiriting them away to Nashville. We assure our friend that nothing is further from our intention. Those rays of science, however luminous we acknowledge them to be, would be as powerless to further

our object here, as they are impotent to retard it where they are.

During an acquaintance of four years, the mouth-piece of "the institution and of medical science" has sedulously kept concealed from us those high and manly qualities which he certainly possesses; an excess of modesty, which, however estimable, was not over attractive. We have praised his school, praised his magnificent city, praised the introductory lectures in his College. In return, he sneered at our introductory lecture, because of its prophecy, and now sneers again because we show that what occasioned his first sneer is a fixed historic truth—and these sneers constitute his notice of us and ours. Still we were perfectly satisfied, for we had ample evidence that our labors were benefitting his readers, and thus contributing to "medical science." In his September number he takes no less than TWELVE articles from the Nashville Journal, consisting of translations made by our co-editor, condensed extracts, and selections from our exchanges, foreign and domestic, without even condescending to acknowledge to his readers the source whence he obtained them. We hoped this was an oversight, and never thought of complaining; for we are slow to complain, and will not, indeed, unless tumbled intentionally into the gutter; and pray earnestly for the coming of the medical millennium, when brother will cease to give his brother cause for complaint. In his next number he repeats the dose, rather homœopathically, however, and in his next he fires his blunderbuss. Is there a man who treads the earth, with the feeling yet alive in his bosom that he is a man, and a FREEMAN, who would justify the course of this brother towards us, or say that it merited aught less than we have in this article meted out to it? It is impossible that we can entertain any other feeling towards St. Louis, and her struggling medical institutions, than that shaped and softened by the utmost kindness. And no reasonable opportunity has been permitted to pass unimproved, publicly to express it. We *know* what St. Louis is, and are at this instant living in her great and mighty future, while she is giving tone and newness of life to the science

and civilization of all the Americas and their dependent islands of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. Look at the young giantess as she laves her sides in that mighty inland sea, which, stretching half across the continent, revels in all the climates of Europe. The *old* American World east of the Mississippi is not even equal to that west of the Rocky Mountains, while the vast territory lying between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains is fifty per cent larger than either that east or west of these great boundaries. Oh no. Not one, nor a hundred, nor a thousand of her citizens, by any ill usage, can repress the feeling that swells our heart at the mention of St. Louis. She is an American creation, concentrating within her young limbs the power, energy, and progress of her mighty mother. If our friend would forgive us, we would add, that she is like the Nashville School of Medicine, mighty ere its existence was fairly known, and which, while she courts the sisterly feeling of rival schools, **DEFIES EITHER THEM OR THEIR JOURNALS.** To the winds—to the dogs with this nothingness of soul! We had rather be a man in perdition, than a dog in nonentity.

Does any one dare ask why the profession in the Southwest determined to make their great Medical College at Nashville, and that the thing was no sooner determined than done? Here is the answer—**THE PROFESSION HAS A HEART!** Go learn that lesson and be wiser.

How did our prophecies come true, how did we know, how could we tell? We will tell you. There is no legerdmain in it. Look at the map—put your finger down—no, not there, *that* two hundred years hence—“Nashville?” yes, there. Now look at the political horizon. “Well.” Now read this from the London Quarterly Review, “The individual only can dive into himself and bring up out of the deep reservoir of a fertile brain, and reasoning imagination, all the postures, contacts, alliances and relations of a scheme in operation, its situation amid surrounding matter, the points of attraction and repulsion, where things combine and where they jar; can in short be **PROPHETIC**, call up an **UNBORN FUTURE**, and **SET THINGS GOING BEFORE THEY ARE.**” This is the secret of

prophecy in the absence of inspiration. You say it involves much knowledge? It involves *intimate* knowledge of that subject, of course. With this knowledge, and a long familiarity with the fact that the profession of medicine had a heart, we could dare prophesy. Deal with a physician as you would with a gentleman and a christian. He sends his student where he pleases. You may humbug the people with your long-winded folly about Hospitals, as the pill gentry do, but the *doctors* know better. They know all your gasing about them is arrant humbug. They know that Medical Colleges are devoted to *elementary* teaching, and that the subjects are so long, and the sessions so short, that they cannot do that as it ought to be done. They have been to College themselves, and know all about these things. Students have no time to attend Hospitals, and a large medical class pouring into a Hospital already filled with patients is an absurdity. To the graduate before beginning practice, Hospitals are inestimable. We have two Hospitals here that have been always open to us, and in the beginning we did honestly believe that we could make them useful. But we soon learned better, and with equal candor taught the students so. We would not, for any advantage to the under-graduate, give five cents to have the Pennsylvania Hospital next door to us, with the exclusive admission to its wards. If scientific medical gentlemen, residing in cities with large Hospitals, will open a scientific medical school for medical graduates that shall bear the same relation to the under-graduate medical colleges, that the scientific departments in the great Universities of Europe do to their under-graduate colleges, then could they bring their Hospitals into play, when they would react gloriously as a lever of professional elevation. At present all know that this much only can be done—to teach thoroughly the elements of the various departments of medicine in our medical colleges, illustrated with rich surgical and medical cliniques at the College, where to observe, the student is not required to leave his seat, and then send such as can afford it to the Hospitals of Europe, and such as cannot,

to ride a year, if possible, with their preceptors, and see the application of the principles they have acquired.

New Orleans is the point we would indicate as the place for this great scientific medical school, open alone to graduates. And to show our willingness to contribute to the true elevation of the profession, in the event our suggestion is acted upon at New Orleans, we bind ourselves to join with any other twenty-four men to contribute \$500 per annum towards the support of the Professors, until the fees from their class shall yield them four thousand dollars each per year.— Let those who are really in earnest about elevating the profession, assist us with their pens, or purses, or both, in this only sure method of attaining that great object. We believe we can ourselves beg of wealthy physicians enough annually to support two of the Professors in such a school. If New Orleans have not the spirit to seize the opportunity to make herself not only famous in medicine, but to confer untold blessings upon the community, we would next suggest St. Louis. At either of these points it will succeed. Let the editor of the St. Louis Journal, who penned the text for this already too long editorial, and who has the talent and ability to lead in it, think of this suggestion, and remember that he knows us not if he imagines he would not find in us an earnest forwarder of his undertaking. Nor will we quarrel with him if he seize upon it, like he does our journalistic pudding, without furnishing the sauce of acknowledgment.

Our friend insinuates that we are unjust to the North, as we appeal to "sectional prejudice." Our Northern friends are not only abundantly able to take care of themselves, but have, as we have shown elsewhere, and shall again show in this number, heart enough left, to speak kindly of others. And, besides, should they desire a Southern champion, we put it to the editor of the St. Louis Journal, whether it be altogether consonant with a correct taste in him to be in such hot haste to offer his services. He may regard it as an idle boast of ours, but he will permit us to enjoy the belief, that even for that post, were each of us candidates, we should beat him six to one.

And now, our dear readers, let us apologize to *you* for taking up so much of your space. Our older readers know how liberal we have been to all the schools, editors and Professors of the West and South. We have not counted them, but believe we are below the whole truth in stating that in our short editorial career, we have devoted a hundred pages to favorable reviews and eulogistic notices of Southern and Western schools and their teachers, while we have *never* first said a harmful word of one, and, as we shall be judged in the coming world, rejoiced to find that we could go up without involving a diminution of their classes. Our overtures of fraternal regard have, in every instance, been met by either contemptuous silence or open rebuke! Now, we know that this procedure is not incompatible with sheer justice, for they might have been entitled to our respect and eulogy, while we remained beneath their consideration and regard. And to this conclusion would the unanimity of their action long since have forced us, but for the fact that disinterested journalists, both in Europe and America, the latchet of whose editorial shoes our contemptuous confrères were not worthy to stoop down and unloose, sustained and supported us with a tongue that permeated all quarters, as a man not void of force, genius or learning. Not a Journal South or West has noticed us but to abuse, save one, and that one was independent of colleges. One even refused to advertise our college on its cover, and while using the motto, "I take good where I find it," has never, during the four years that we have exchanged with it, found the first line of good in our columns, yet we publish in this very number an article from the editor of that very Journal, because we believe it to be a good one, and will be of service to our readers.

Can you blame us if, after a great success under all this opposition and detraction, we allude to it in a pretty tall style? God knows, individually we have nothing to boast of, and we have always attributed the extraordinary success of the school with which we are connected, to a combination of circumstances essentially foreign to ourself. And had we been the greatest of boasters by nature, we hope we had too

much policy, not to say common sense, to try *that* after it had so signally failed with the conductors of the St. Louis University. Does our friend imagine himself entitled to a monopoly of gasconade, that he is so peculiarly sensitive to the big talk of others? Having been surpassed in all things else, does he hug the closer this last feather of his tattered plume? In our public circulars we have ever endeavored to avoid large promises, and we defy our maligners, singular and in the aggregate, to point to a single expression, which, by the most interested, and therefore the most vulgar criticism, can be so tortured as to imply that the student would consult his own interest by attending our college. We dare to assert that we have taken full as lofty ground in this respect as any American medical college. These circulars are scattered everywhere, and we have always contended should be freer from parade and promises, than such publications as are directed exclusively to physicians.

In our Journal we acknowledge we occasionally make large predictions—and so far, *history has endorsed them*. If it is contended that it is boasting notwithstanding, then our reply is, WE HAVE A RIGHT TO BOAST.

