and those who choose to consult with such; an amalgamation from which Fellows of the Academy are prohibited by self-respect, as well as by their rules. It is rumored that preliminary steps have been taken by these kindred spirits to get up an organization se defendendo, on real democratic principles, by opening their door to the largest liberty, and embracing all these different tribes and sects, whose "follow-feeling makes them wondrous kind," and whose common "proscription" by the "regulars," in refusing fellowship with such, has raised a clamor against the Academy for its "aristocracy." The public will be greatly benefited by recognizing this "opposition line" as soon as they thus "show their colors;" for those who prefer a "somnambulist clairvoyant," or a "seventh son of a seventh daughter," or an "astrologist," for their doctor, will know in which group to look for him, and can be accommodated with either.

But there are other unmistakable signs of progress in the activity of the younger members of the profession, in private and associated teaching, to an extent unparalleled in any other of our sister cities. The pages of the Annalist, in each of its Nos., exhibits the zeal and success of the Medical and Surgical Society, and the Pathological Society; both of which are manifesting a spirit of enterprise highly commendable, and contributing valuable materials to the profession, while laboring for their mutual improvement. The bi-weekly reports of the transactions of these Societies, and of the surgical cliniques of both the Colleges, furnished by the same Journal, are highly interesting both to students and practitioners; and confirm the opinion that medical science has received a new impulse which augurs well for New York.

We learn that the New York Academy of Medicine have unanimously chosen Dr. John W. Francis as their anniversary orator, for the present year. This result of their recent election has given universal satisfaction.

Insensibility to Pain from a Hot Iron.—An exhibition of extraordinary interest to humanity occurred at the Massachusetts General Hospital on Saturday last. A patient was presented—a man in advanced life—who, we understand, was laboring under paraplegia, having its origin in a carries of the lower dorsal vertebra—by which Dr. Warren proposed the actual cautery. After the patient had inhaled the lethen, Dr. Warren run an iron rod, heated to a white heat, to the length of about two feet, up and down the back, each side of the spine,—burning two lines on one side and one on the other, and then carried it zigzag across, between the spinous processes, the same distance. The patient during this process was wholly unconscious of pain, under the severest test to which he could be subjected—that of a hot iron applied to the naked skin.

To Correspondents.—A paper on "The latest form of Empiricism," and Dr. Banister's case of a foreign substance in the trachea, have been received.

Erratum.—Page 52, line 10, for "last three months," read last three fall months.