

that they cannot *pluck* a candidate. Sympathy for the man excludes all sense of justice. A lively sense of responsibility to the public admits of no such sentiment, and if there is an occasion which demands strictness and firmness, it is when we are asked to decide whether or not a man is fit to take charge of the lives of his fellow-creatures. In case of doubt, give the public the benefit; better one man to suffer than to allow dozens to run the risks of his incompetency. Yet, as was well said by a writer in the *Lancet* a few years ago, "the rejections at examinations, necessary as they may be in the common interest, represent a sum of lost time, lost labor, wasted money, defeated hopes and poignant disappointment, experienced by candidates and their friends, which no one but an anti-vivisectionist can think lightly of." Fortunately, at a majority of the Canadian colleges it does not rest with the examiners for the *degree* to determine the fitness of the candidate to practice, as the Provincial Licensing Boards relieve the university professors of this responsibility. This is as it should be, and I am glad to see that a Central Board of Examiners is to be established in the Province of Quebec.

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The Germans are far ahead of us in this matter. The M.D. degree from Berlin, Leipzig or Bonn carries with it no permission to practice. The candidate must first pass the *Staats-examen*, which he dreads much more than the university test. It corresponds exactly with the examination of the Canadian Provincial Boards. There is this difference, however: in Germany the government appoints the examiners, while under our democratic institutions the incorporated profession nominates. The *Staats-examen* of Germany is a model which medical boards everywhere might follow. It is eminently practical and thorough; the candidate is allowed ample time, and he must show fitness in all clinical details. Take, for example, the examination in medicine, which must be conducted in a hospital by two examiners. The regulations (summarized) are:—1*a*. On each of two following days the candidate must examine a patient in the presence of the examiners, obtain all the details of the case, and the next morning present a critical review of the same. 1*b*. The two patients are to be visited daily for seven days, careful notes