

a position to state positively that the promoters of the bill which created the Council, including such men as Dr. H. H. Wright, Dr. W. T. Aikins, of Toronto, the late Dr. Dickson and Dr. Lavell, of Kingston, and others, did most distinctly understand that their schools and universities were to be entitled to representation in the Council; otherwise they would under no circumstances have consented to the passage of the bill.

(2) He says the universities never had any licensing powers to give up. In a sense he is right, as the degrees were not licenses, but those holding the degrees could get the licenses simply on making application and paying the required fee of four dollars each. The Toronto school also had the right to issue certificates of competency to practise medicine, and those who held such certificates were entitled to licenses on making application in the same way. The Toronto School of Medicine and the universities, therefore, did surrender some of their powers when the Central Examining Board was established, and this must always be considered when radical amendments to the Medical Act are proposed.

As we have before stated, we are to a certain extent in sympathy with Dr. Sangster's views apart from those expressed in the letter; but while we think certain changes are absolutely required, we do not consider it wise to close our eyes to the serious difficulties in the way. Dr. Sangster disliked any interference with his own vested rights as a practitioner of medicine before the formation of the Council. Why will he not show some consideration for the universities and corporations, which undoubtedly had certain powers and rights which they do not now possess? There are some other aspects of the school and university question to which we will refer at a future time.

CANADA'S REPRESENTATIVE AT THE MEETING OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The choice of Dr. Hingston, of Montreal, to deliver the address on surgery at the Nottingham meeting, as a representative of our Dominion, was in all respects a happy one. Apart from his surgical skill and experience, which

are so well known at home and abroad, he has a fine presence, and is an exceedingly good speaker. Mr. Lawson Tait paid him a very pretty compliment at the banquet given by the profession of Montreal to the members of the Canadian Medical Association, in 1884, when he said that Dr. Hingston, while speaking, reminded him of England's silvery-tongued Paget. Mr. Tait's first experience of Dr. Hingston's powers as a speaker was at the regular session of the meeting of the Association, when the latter, in criticizing the able address of the former on abdominal surgery, entered a dignified but emphatic protest against the indiscriminate mutilations of women by removing the uterine appendages. At the same meeting these two champions had several "spars," which, however, only resulted in a friendship which is not only strong, but likely to endure.

As the *Journal* expresses it: "For the first time in the history of the Association, one of the addresses to the general meeting has this year been delivered by a colonial member of the British Medical Association. Professor Flint and Professor Gross have been heard as representatives of our American colleagues, and it was only right that the first opportunity should be taken to ask a representative of one of the many colonial branches which have recently been called into existence to become a spokesman of the science and practise of our art in Greater Britain."

We desire to extend our hearty congratulations to Dr. Hingston on the great ability he displayed in his address, and on the magnificent reception he received in the old land. The honors which have been heaped upon him by those we respect so highly as that grandest of all medical societies will be highly appreciated by his numerous friends in all parts of this great Dominion, which he has so worthily represented.

THE "BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL."

The success of the *British Medical Journal* has been almost phenomenal. Dr. Withers Moore, the past-president of the Association, recently expressed the opinion that such success was largely due to the management of the able editor, Mr. Ernest Hart, who, he said, had