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THE ONTARIO MEDICAL COUNCIL.

Following the remarks in the last two issues of this journal, on the difficulties existing between the Medical Council of Ontario and certain members of the profession, we wish to draw attention in the next place to, what seems to us, an error on the part of the gentlemen who think they have a grievance; and an injustice to the Council. We refer to the charge made, that the members representing Universities and the Medical Colleges are able to run, and indeed *do* run the Council in their "own interests." This we are assured is a grievous error. There is no one, or more than one, of these representatives who have, or can have, any interest apart from the general profession. We are aware that the above statement may be challenged, and the objection raised that college representatives may wish to keep the standard of education low, in order to attract large numbers of students, from whom they, the college men, shall receive large sums in fees. But surely, if a man has enough sense to be a representative of his college in the Council, he will have sufficient foresight not to kill the goose that lays his golden eggs, which he would certainly be doing did he attempt to lower the standard of medical education, or to check the natural and necessary upward and onward tendency of this particular branch of education. Our Council has now been long enough in existence to have left its imprint upon the present generation of medical men, and to have made a record abroad as to the qualifications of

its licentiates. Now it cannot be denied that these qualifications are considered good, and are respected wherever they are known. As to the medical men of Ontario to-day, taken as a body, it may not become us to speak, but they are *surely* not behind those of any other state or country in the world, of equal age, wealth and culture. These are facts, or are believed to be facts, by the great majority of men in Ontario, professional or otherwise, who have any opportunity of forming a judgment in the matter.

How then, can the natural tending upwards of the standard of education have been burked by the college representatives? The condition of medical education in Ontario to-day, the name we have away from home, the very status of the men composing the active, working profession, here and now—all these go to show that advance has been made, and that we believe, as rapidly as the circumstances of a young, poor country would possibly allow.

Even had the college men in the Council the desire to lower the standard, or to keep it at a standstill, they would still lack the power, for want of numbers; for if we look at the list of members, we find that out of a total of twenty-six representatives, only nine are from the colleges. Moreover, it is a well-known fact that there is not a great unanimity of feeling existing between these college men. The rivalry of the different schools precludes such a state of affairs. But let it be again noted, that even did the college men unite, and form a solid phalanx, a thing which we are safe in saying has never occurred, they would be only nine, as against seventeen territorial representatives and homœopaths. How, then, can this absurd charge be substantiated?

Certain it is that men engaged in teaching medicine, know more than others, the wants and capacities of our students of medicine, and they have, or at least some of them have, objected to too great changes being made in a short time, in the curriculum. This must appear, to any unprejudiced observer, as wise and prudent. Their representatives on the Examining Board have given, so far as it is possible for examiners to give it, uniform satisfaction, by the thorough and impartial way in which they have discharged their duties. It is an open secret that some of the examiners who are not engaged in teaching, have