

think very highly of the change of front they have found it necessary to make. In this, no one should seek to interfere with them. But, if as judicious as they should be, they will boast with great caution with regard to the future. As separate bodies, their respective records are before the public; and, while respectable, they have been by no means extraordinary. Great care should be shown, too, by these parties, in avoiding disparaging criticism of other Ontario medical schools, whose success, during many years, has been so great as to challenge attention everywhere, and to gain for them a most enviable reputation for thoroughness in the training given to their students. These schools are, owing to the high position they have attained, after many years of laborious and self-denying work, unwilling to undergo any transformation, and it is greatly to their credit to be able to say truthfully, that *no change could increase public confidence in them.*

While, however, modifications may occur in medical schools, from unforeseen causes, at any time, it is fortunate for the profession, and greatly to the advantage of the public, that we have a Medical Council Central Board, before which every candidate for licence, no matter where he has studied or graduated, must present himself. Ontario has good reason to congratulate herself on being, in this respect, far in advance of most countries, in having this one central supreme board—entirely independent of any school, or college, or university, at home or abroad. The effect of this central board's examinations in stimulating *all* our students, in *all* our schools, to work hard far harder than they otherwise would do, cannot be overestimated. It would be an evil day for the profession, as well as the public, were the Medical Council, or its carefully appointed Medical Board, to allow any tampering or intermeddling on the part of any medical school, or other teaching medical faculty. Before the Medical Council's Board all medical schools stand on precisely the same level, and all must accept, and heretofore have willingly accepted, the excellent curriculum the Council lays down.

Any attempt, as one of our daily papers (doubtless inspired by interested parties) foreshadows, to dictate a curriculum to the Council—from whatever quarter such may come, would be very audacious, and would be stoutly resisted by the

entire medical profession. To swerve by one hair's breadth from its present judicial position, with respect to all our schools, would be destruction to our respected Medical Council, while to maintain that position of perfect independence and impartiality, means its rising higher than ever in the respect of the profession, and of the people at large. Every true friend of medical education in Ontario to-day, will rally to the support of our Medical Council, should its complete independence be, in any way, assailed; for, being independent of all schools and colleges, it is the body to which the public specially looks, and may look with confidence, to have their best interests carefully and continuously protected.

OBSERVER.

Aug. 1, 1887.

Selected Articles.

THE FINANCIAL VALUE OF SANITARY SCIENCE.

The "Financial Value of Sanitary Science" formed the text for an able address given by that veteran worker in sanitary science, Mr. Edwin Chadwick, at the annual meeting of the Association of Public Sanitary Inspectors last week, and no man probably ever had more qualifications for the task, or could speak from such experience and with greater authority than this esteemed President of the Association of Public Inspectors. As complementary to the recent Parliamentary Budget, he submitted by way of example for the "health of nations" the financial value of properly qualified sanitary science. First referring to the amounts of money charged upon the community, arising from the excessive sickness and mortality which had been proved to be preventable by sound sanitation, he said some approach might be made to estimate the amount of those charges from the ascertained incomes of the life-insurance companies, which perhaps did not comprise more than two-thirds of the population. There were some ninety-three of these companies, comprising almost exclusively middle-class persons, of which companies the annual income was stated to be £23,000,000. There were also the great friendly societies of all sorts, whose aggregate insurance charges, as stated upon the authority of Sir James Paget, were £25,000,000 annually; the two yielded a total of £48,000,000 annually, three times the amount of the poor rates. And if they could ascertain the full number of the uninsured, he expected that the whole would double the total Budget for both the army and the navy, which was stated to be £32,000,000. Thus they