

interest would not be brought under official purview of the Congress, unless called up by that body on the ground of interference with the Imperial interests. The ordinary business of the British and other parliaments could not be blocked by the Imperial Congress, because the assent of the latter would always be assumed to any measure not called before it prior to the passage of the measure by Parliament and Senate.

The relation of the Imperial Congress to the British Parliament would be simply—*independence*. Each body would be supreme within its own department. The Imperial Congress could not legislate for Great Britain apart from the rest of the Empire: the British Parliament could not legislate for the colonies apart from Great Britain. All matters of mutual interest, such as shipping, import and export duties, immigration and emigration, defence, etc., would be the proper subjects of legislation by the Imperial Congress.

The number of members of the Imperial Congress might be regulated *pro rata* with population, if the members were chosen only by the elective parliaments of the empire; but as the Senatorial bodies consist largely of Government nominees the "tight little isles" would have their due preponderance under the simple arrangement of giving three representatives to each existing Legislature. This feature of the scheme is, however, introduced merely for the purpose of conserving vested interests. Limitation of the electorate of the Imperial Congress to the popular Representative bodies would otherwise be preferable.

The benefits to Canada and the other individual colonies would be many. Prominent among them may be specified the enhanced respect of the outside world. As integral parts of the British Empire, the dignity of each would be raised to a higher plane. The whole power of the Empire would be behind each part to sustain its rights against the attempted violence of any national bully. And surely the British Empire would gain, not only in glory, but in commerce and in world-influence.

A. M. B.

THE MEDICAL MOVEMENT IN MONTREAL.

IN the regulation orders of a certain religious society who, let us hope, if they ever receive their endowment, will enjoy it with a zest enhanced by the conflict to win it, *the end justifies the means* adopted to secure the end; and we ought to record our gratitude to these gentlemen that they still at least appear to preserve some reverent respect for the end. With the most of us it is otherwise. We have so pledged ourselves to the pursuit of means that the end has become *non est*. We scarcely recognize it when we stumble upon it. We decline to accept it. At best we do so under protest. Give us the chase. Let who will pick up the game.

When Samuel Johnson wrote, "We have all the same general desires, but how these desires shall be accomplished will for ever be disputed," he might have phonographically sealed his wisdom and labelled it "to be opened in Montreal in the closing years of the nineteenth century when certain persons shall be found to go on their knees humbly craving the crumbs of education which fall from the table of certain other persons."

After a quarter of a century's experiment of the training of women in medicine, the United States now possess not only hundreds of successful lady doctors, but many vigorous medical colleges entirely governed and officered by women. Within our own fair realm the movement has made headway, and the schools at Toronto and at Kingston, are, no doubt, destined to meet with the local support they deserve. At last, in Montreal, educational circles are being disturbed by the skirting eddies of the great current, and as these circles show indications of stemming the tide, the eddies are gathering and compacting themselves for patient and united service. Some of our fair maidens having gone elsewhere for what they cannot procure at home, and others waiting, prepared to follow the example if necessary, a small working committee of Donalda students, animated and supported by a lady who for some years has been anxiously desirous of putting to usury a special talent with which she has been endowed, have banded themselves together, and in course of the last few months have drawn around them a large organization who now call themselves the Association for the Promotion of the Professional Education of Women. Executive and Advisory committees have been at work. A request was forwarded to the Faculty of Medicine in McGill University asking for two things:—1, that the Faculty supply the Association with a formal expression of opinion on the general question of the medical education of women, and 2, that it grant a conference of members of the Faculty with members of the Association, to consider the probability of securing such education in Montreal.

It is important to remark at this stage that so long as the question remained purely one of *end*,—a question of whether or not women ought to receive a medical education, the Association met with a great deal of what it was justified in setting down as encouragement. In private interviews, and through the process known as *interviewing* by reporters of the daily press, many of the leading members of the Faculty expressed themselves as quite prepared to take up the question. But so soon as the second request of the Association was formally laid before them, and the discussion of *means* was hinted at, a sudden silence ensued. "They were too busy to think about it." "Their opinions had not yet crystallized." "The women were in too great a hurry," and "expected the work of fifty (!) years to be done in three months." With one or two brave exceptions,

the distinguished gentlemen all placed themselves safely on the fence.

The consequence was that in the reply to the association no notice whatever was taken of the first item—the broad general question. As far as the association is aware, it seems to have been by common consent confided to the cold shades of neglect. The entire strength of the Faculty appears to have been concentrated upon the question of *means*, and upon making *that* decide the end. The conference, however, was granted, and was held in the Medical Library. The Faculty was represented by the Principal, the Dean, the Registrar, and another member; and the association by its vice-president, its secretary, one of the proposed students, and a successful lady medical student who is a resident of Montreal, though a graduate of Kingston. This committee of the association was authorized to lay before the conference a request that the Medical Faculty extend its educational advantages to women upon one of three bases: 1. The system of co-education throughout. 2. The system of separate education throughout. 3. The system of combining both, that is, of co-education in so far as it might be deemed practicable, and of separate education in such classes as may be considered absolutely desirable to be divided. The association further authorized its committee to press the claims of the last proposal as the only one which the association was inclined to advance, and to assure the Faculty of its determination to use every exertion to procure the necessary endowment.

At a public meeting of the association held at the end of May, to receive the report of the committee, a very large audience indicated their interest by their presence in the hall of the Young Women's Christian Association. Amongst the speakers was Prof. Davidson, of New York, who was delivering a short course of lectures under the auspices of the University Literary Society, and who in a most pointed and telling address said it *amused* him to come to Montreal and find us in the position regarding this question in which he had found our great neighbours twenty (!) years ago. The reports were adopted by the association, and in absence of any communication from the Faculty, although many weeks had elapsed, the ladies adjourned for the summer months.

In submitting to the Faculty the three plans which accompanied the petition for the admission of women to the study of medicine, the association was understood to have covered the entire ground of what is practical, and its object was simply that, and nothing more. The system of co-education had not been entertained by the association, although some of the medical professors had publicly intimated their readiness to adopt it throughout. That of separate classes was not discussed in any shape, as being too costly, in a great measure unnecessary, and out of harmony with the public sentiment in Montreal upon which the association expected to rely for any endowment which may be anticipated. The system of the two combined received unanimous advocacy, as being the only natural, economical and efficient means of securing the object in view, as the movement had adopted the basis of equal-education, equal examinations, and, therefore, equal degrees. In the absence of any literal transcription of what took place at the conference, the association was compelled to rely upon notes taken by the secretary as fully as time permitted. From these a sufficient indication of the attitude of the University was supplied.

As may have been expected, the Principal undertook to be the chief, if not the only spokesman for the Faculty. He suggested a few counter systems, such as a special temporary endowment for a term of, say, ten years; or a postponement of the whole question till after the erection of the Royal Victoria Hospital, when some arrangement might be made in connection with it; impressed upon the conference his conviction that co-education, even in the modified form adopted by the association, would practically kill any prospect of endowment in Montreal, and intimated that the movement must necessarily be of slow growth. The practical result of the meeting was that the Faculty counselled the association to lay the petition before the corporation; that, when that was done, the corporation was instructed to send it down to the Faculty again; and said Faculty was authorized to return it to the corporation—the *slow growth* to be entered upon in a most business-like fashion.

So far, the association must be congratulated upon the energetic, candid, and systematic manner in which it has commenced its work. It has proved that it possesses not only organizing but administrative ability, and has set forth its aim in a clear and unmistakable fashion. At the origin of a movement of such importance, coming as it did from the town as an expression of a desire to aid the University in its high and important work, a fair and candid discussion of the plan suggested by the association would have been as little as could have been expected, instead of assertions on the part of the Principal which were distinctly calculated to bias the minds of the conference against it. The learned gentleman said that co-education had been a failure even in Arts, not only in the United States but also in Toronto and Kingston. If such had been the case, the association would not in all probability have adopted it in medicine, even in a modified form. The facts regarding the United States are so overwhelmingly on the other side that the Principal must have been perhaps too busy to give the matter much attention. And as far as our country is concerned, that any educationalist should make a statement of that sort presupposes that the association had undertaken a work for which it was evidently unprepared. So far from the combined plan operating against endowment, in proposing to carry out

co-education in every class and in every detail where it is possible to do so, the association is convinced that it is proceeding upon the secret of the *only prospect* of endowment in Montreal, and the chief obstacle which is anticipated, and which has already been proved, in the way of securing any adequate endowment for medicine for women lies in the separate classes for women in Arts.

This may be a matter of surprise to the distinguished Principal. But the association is a body of practical women who have laid their foundations broad and sure. They have no policies which are dearer to their hearts than the object they are aiming at. They know the value of a thousand or a hundred thousand dollars. They know the labour on the part of their husbands and brothers which it means, and the labour on their own part of wise and self-denying expenditure. They know the sentiment of the public they intend to appeal to, and already they have been met with the taunt that a college which spends so much upon the unnecessary luxury of separate classes in literature and history, languages and science, ought surely to be able to supply its own endowment for medicine. It has also been struck with the curious fact that of all the colleges in Canada where women have been admitted the only one in which there has been any trouble is the only one which has *not* accepted co-education.

It may be important to add in conclusion that the association is fighting for the University the battle which it ought to have been fighting for the town. It asks no *boon*. It insists upon a *right*. It has no intention of losing itself in fears of *means*. It will go right on to its *end*. Already it has proposed, if necessary, to direct its strength towards Toronto or Kingston. And it is to be hoped that McGill University will show herself alive to the policy of retaining and maintaining the energetic aid of a band of women so thoroughly in earnest, and so thoroughly in sympathy with the work in which they and the University ought to have a common interest.

RAMBLER.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

BURGOYNE'S INVASION OF 1777. With an outline sketch of the American Invasion of Canada, 1775-76. By Samuel Adams Drake. 1889. Boston: Lee & Shepard; New York: Charles T. Dillingham.

This is a short historical sketch written from a United States standpoint in a lucid and interesting manner, but with a palpable bias which deprives it of the merit of being an impartial narrative. Witness the statement in the opening paragraph of the invasion of Canada: "Though they did not love their new masters, prudence counselled the Canadians to stand aloof, at least till the Americans had proved their ability to make head against the might of England." To this characteristic American assertion, the meagre account with which its author has contented himself—compressed within some six or eight pages—to record the defeat and disaster which befell the invaders of our country, is a sufficient refutation. No, it was not the prudence of the traitor that animated our forefathers of either race in those dark and stormy days, but a noble and exalted patriotism which led the brave Anglo-Saxon and the gallant Celt to stand united for king and constitution, and to pour out their blood like water in defence of hearth and home and country as their sons and daughters are ready, if need be, to do to-day.

SOCIETY GYMNASTICS AND VOICE CULTURE, adapted from the Delsarte System. By Genevieve Stebbins (Mrs. J. A. Thompson). New York: Edgar S. Werner, 28 West 23rd Street.

Great is the importance of the ancient maxim, "a sound mind in a sound body." It is, alas! too true that the wondrous skill which produced the exquisite physical grace and beauty of the ancient Greek—immortalized in voiceless marble—may be almost considered one of the lost arts. The above manual is an intelligent attempt to compensate for the loss, and at the same time, by a few clear directions and exercises, to stimulate the culture of the voice and phonetic basis.

A SUBJECT CATALOGUE: or finding list of books in the Toronto Reference Library with an Index of Subjects and Personal Names, including additions made up to February 1st, 1889. Toronto: James Murray & Company.

This compact, convenient and well-arranged volume is a boon to that ever increasing portion of our community who consult the literary, artistic, scientific or other branches of our public library of reference, and for all that goes to make a catalogue a ready and efficient aid, a help and not a hindrance. It may favourably court comparison with that of any other library, whether public or private. The arrangement is of the simplest, yet most comprehensive character. The indices of subjects and names are admirable features. The striking subject and section headings, the clear type and excellent paper are all commendable, and the especial prominence given to Canadian subjects is well worthy of note. It may not be out of place here to say that this catalogue is in keeping with the ability and efficiency of its compiler, Mr. James Bain, Jr., the chief librarian, who, with his efficient assistants, have won the regard of all literary workers who have had occasion to approach them in their official capacity.