

well that we should put aside the modesty with which we have for a long time been tongue-tied and claim boldly that in regard to the regulating of the study and practice of medicine by legislation, this province has been and still is in advance of any other province or state on this continent. More than this, our methods of conducting examinations by a Board representing all the interests concerned, and having the sole power to confer licenses for practice, while it has served as a model for the organization of many State Boards, is still better than any other. Our examinations have been and are more exacting and searching, and our standards are higher than those of any other state or province. The influence for good which has thus been exerted cannot easily be computed. It is quite true that upon paper examinations have been set which would appear to present greater difficulties for students, but the percentage required for a pass and the proportion of candidates rejected have uniformly been lower than has obtained with us. Numberless students who, after being graduated here, have passed some one or more of the better class of State examinations in the United States, or have taken degrees in our own mother country, testify to this fact. Their uniform report is that our examinations present greater difficulties than any other. The net result of the operation of the Ontario Medical Act of 1869 and of amendments thereto has been that there is to-day in this province a profession of which we can justly feel proud, and that scattered over the world are countless progressive and successful physicians who, having been trained here, owe no small measure of their success to the fact that for more than thirty years the medical colleges of this province have had to teach up to the requirements of a rigid State examination. We are proud of this record as a record, but what has been done is of importance mainly as indicating what better results may still be attained. Where we stand on any question or what we have done, is of less importance than the direction in which we are moving. We are facing a wonderful to-morrow: The measureless growth of the medical sciences within recent years imposes upon us grave responsibility for the future, and we cannot afford to "mark time" while other and even less favored states or provinces are progressing.

Claiming all that I have for the Ontario Medical Act, and for its influence upon the profession here, I am far from claiming that it is incapable of improvement, or that its provisions have always been wisely and judiciously administered. A long series of indictments could be laid against successive medical councils. If I were to undertake even an enumeration of the mistakes, the short-comings and the follies of these bodies, I