

to render themselves eligible for holding appointments in England or on British ships by taking one or more qualifications. In cases where mail steamers happen to be carrying British troops the surgeon on the steamer, if registered, is entitled to draw pay as an army officer, which, however, he cannot do if unregistered. By the majority of Quebec graduates, therefore, many of whom desire to spend a year at sea, the new arrangement will be hailed with satisfaction. It is true that in return for this privilege the Province of Quebec will be thrown open to the immense overflow current from the English schools and this feature of the arrangement is viewed with alarm by several, who, seeing the deplorable straits to which the profession in England is being reduced by overcrowding will be loathe to witness the same state of affairs prevailing here. In reply to this objection it may be said that the best men from the higher ranks are doing too well to think of leaving home, while the rank and file are for the most part handicapped by their habits of life that they will have no chance of survival if they were brought into competition with the Canadian practitioner. In any case, it appears that heretofore British practitioners have been allowed to practice in Canada without any reciprocity, so that it is said by those who have the matter in hand that by these arrangements we will be obtaining a privilege hitherto denied us, without giving any more than we have been already giving for nothing. Those Canadian graduates who have established themselves in England, and we are personally acquainted with several, have done remarkably well, but the number permanently removing to England is never likely to be large, for the simple reason that the struggle for existence there is much keener than in Canada. On the other hand none but the first class English graduates would have any chance of surviving in Canada, and those are the very ones whom it would not pay to come out here, for when

they do succeed in England their success is greater than it could be here.

In both countries the profession is overcrowded at the bottom, while at the top there is more room in England owing to its greater wealth. In Canada there are very few very rich or very poor.

On the whole, therefore, we may say that while the granting of the same privileges to Canadian graduates as are already granted to English ones is only a matter of justice too long denied, still we doubt whether it will lead to a much larger exchange of medical men in the future than has existed in the past.

IS THE CORSET INJURIOUS ?

There must be few, indeed, of our readers who would have any difficulty in coming to a conclusion on the above question, and yet only a few months ago a Cambridge professor of medicine, and one of the leading lady physicians of England, surprised the medical world by reading a paper showing that they were not only not injurious, but that tight lacing was positively advantageous when used in moderation. We have not this paper before us, so cannot say where they draw the line of moderation at; but a Southern lay contemporary, in summing up the evidence, tells its readers that 'as long as the maid stops pulling on the lace as soon as the lady begins to squeal there is no harm done.' How erroneous this conclusion is has been ably shown by Dr. George F. Scrady, in the *N. Y. Medical Record*, 17th Nov., in an exhaustive article, from which we will take the liberty of quoting the following list of ills which the corset brings with it :

- Local inflammation of the liver.
- Gall-stones and biliary colic.
- Wandering liver.
- Protuberant abdomen and enteroptosis.
- Prolapse and flexions of the womb.
- Lateral curvatures of the spine.
- Anæmia, chlorosis.
- Dyspepsia.