

ularities as were complained of, was removed. No teaching body could serve any purpose either to itself or any one else by submitting its students to an indifferent matriculation examination; and they certainly would be risking their reputation very seriously, as well as leaving the students insufficiently qualified for the pursuit of their medical studies, so that, if a duly authenticated certificate of matriculation from some authorized University were received by the Medical Council and all students were required to come to the same *medical* standard, all the checks and guarantees that were necessary would have been demanded. This, I think, might have been done. I am quite sure that no University would attach its seal to a certificate of matriculation with the risk that the holder of it might afterwards display such ignorance of the subjects required for matriculation as would compromise that institution.

It may be said that, even yet, if the preparatory education of students were left in the hands of all Universities, it might be made the means by which those Universities having Medical Schools more or less intimately identified with them, could attract a larger number than at present. This objection will, on a little reflection, I think, be found to be purely sentimental. If all students must pass through the same ordeal before obtaining license in medicine, and it be granted that the more thorough preparatory education secures the more complete discipline for the pursuit of professional studies, I apprehend that young men will seek their preliminary education just where they find it can best be attained. More than this, I believe young men will, as a general rule, be attracted just where they can secure the most thorough discipline in their medical studies and no where else.

But what is now proposed, according to the *Kingston Whig*?—After refusing hitherto to accept the matriculation of any of the Universities, we are informed that the Council is *seriously considering* the propriety of accepting the Intermediate Examination as an equivalent for its own matriculation, and that a committee has been appointed to deliberate and report upon the subject at its next annual session.

This, if true, and I am assured it is, does strike me as somewhat extraordinary. Since its inception, the Council has refused most persistently to accept the matriculation of any University. It is now gravely considering the propriety of accepting the Intermediate Examination of the preparatory schools to these Universities, which, to say the most of it, is certainly a no higher standard than that required by any University in this country, and of still ignoring the Universities. And we are informed by some of the advocates of such a measure, in all seriousness, that the High Schools will be more likely than the Universities to act in good faith in the conducting of these matriculation examinations. This, with the most liberal construction, is not paying a very high compliment to the honour and honesty of the authorities of our Canadian Universities. To say that any University would display such an utter disregard of its duties to the students whose education has been entrusted to it as to give its endorsement to a certificate of matriculation unmerited by the holder of it, is a statement which, I honestly believe, is entirely undeserved. I have no hesitation in characterizing such legislation as ill-judged on the part of its promoters; and I do hope that, for the credit of the Council, it will not be entertained for a moment. There is not one substantial reason for the adoption of such a measure. If all students are compelled to submit to the same medical standard, who is to suffer if their preliminary education be insufficient? I apprehend that, if the Medical Council exercises due vigilance as regards the professional training of the students seeking its authority to pursue the practice of medicine, for a period of four years, its responsibility may reasonably be regarded as ending there, and that to the Universities may *safely* be committed the responsibility of directing their preliminary education. If these Universities are entrusted with the matriculation examination, no one of them will run the risk of compromising itself so far as to certify to the qualifications of a man whose ignorance might afterwards reflect discreditably upon the thoroughness of its discipline.

The Council has already established a prece-