

blowing in the Medical Politics of the Province of Quebec. Among a certain number of the profession there was a feeling that the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Lower Canada—the legal custodian of the Profession's honor—was not wide enough awake; that much of the power which they in former days exercised was, from change of circumstances, obsolete, and that a radical alteration was necessary. To those who held these views we must at least give the credit of earnestness, for they proceeded to act upon their convictions, and it was with not little surprise that the College, and we may add the majority of the profession, a year ago, learned that legislation was being attempted, and that a Bill had actually been introduced by Mr. Chapleau, at their instigation, into the Legislature of the Province of Quebec, but which was not pushed beyond its second reading. While we have in the past not hesitated to say we considered the conduct of the prompters of Mr. Chapleau's Bill as not justifiable, yet it was not without some good result. The College had been somewhat tardy, through its Committee appointed at the Tri-Annual Meeting, held at Sherbrooke in 1874, in deciding what changes were needful; but the action of those who introduced this Bill, made them realize that work and not procrastination was necessary. After much discussion, at the meeting of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Lower Canada, which was held in Quebec in October last, a Bill was decided upon, and at the opening of the present session of the Quebec Legislature, it was introduced by Mr. Loranger. Its principal feature was that the various Universities in this Province should give up the right which they possess under their Royal charter, to have the license of the College issue to their graduates without further examination. It was proposed to establish a central examining board, appointed by the College, before whom every graduate must appear and be examined before getting his license. To this proposition we believe McGill University, Bishop's University, and Victoria College assented,—certain conditions, however, being attached, as far as the first two Universities were concerned, and that was that the constitution of the College as regards members should remain as it was, viz.: licentiates, eligible after four years for election as members, and a fee of ten dollars attached. The Bill of

course had other good points, which space does not permit us to refer to. It was widely circulated, and was, so far as our experience went, generally considered an excellent Bill. The Medico-Chirurgical Society of Montreal, embracing, with one or two exceptions, every English practitioner in the city of Montreal, discussed it clause by clause, and recommended it, and a petition, signed by over two hundred licentiates of the College, embracing an almost equal number of both nationalities, in its favor was presented to the House. With such a backing, we think the Legislature would have been justified in accepting it. However, the College Bill and the Bill introduced by Mr. Chapleau last session were referred by the House to a special committee of its medical members, and on Thursday, the 14th December, those who had actively worked in connection with them appeared before the Committee: McGill University was represented by Dr. R. P. Howard; Bishop's University, by Dr. F. W. Campbell; Laval University, by its Director, the Rev. Mr. Hamel; Victoria College, by Dr. Rottot; The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Lower Canada, by its president, Dr. R. H. Russell, and its registrar, Dr. Fenwick; Drs. Lachapelle and Dagenais appeared on behalf of the Bill introduced by Mr. Chapleau; while the Sorel Medical Society was represented by Dr. Bruneau, and, not satisfied with either Bill, drafted one of its own, which was submitted to the Committee. The whole day was taken up by the above gentlemen in addressing the Committee, but the University of Laval declined to allow her *alumni* to be re-examined for the College license, and it then became evident that the main point in the Bill of the College, viz.: the Central Examining Board, would have to be abandoned. Laval expressed her willingness, however, to submit to a visitorial board being present at her examinations, this being what was done in England. It was a fact evident to all who were present that, to obtain amended Legislation, compromises had to be made on every side. The Committee of the House, therefore, referred the three Bills before them to a special Committee, composed as follows:—Dr. Russell of Quebec and Dr. Fenwick of Montreal representing the C. of P. and S. of L. C., Dr. Howard of McGill University, and Dr. F. W. Campbell of Bishop's University; Dr. Larue,