

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. In medicine we are facing a wonderful to-morrow! The measureless growth of its sciences within recent years, impose upon us grave responsibility, 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 shortcomings and the follies of these bodies, I should have no time to discuss them. It is the part of wisdom to learn from the mistakes of others, and, recognizing such mistakes, let us try for the future rather to avoid and correct them than to waste time in harping up them. During the past winter, a Bill to amend the Ontario Medical Act was introduced into our Provincial Legislative by Dr. Jessop. In brief, this Bill asked that the Medical Council should be composed entirely of the Territorial representatives, and that the Universities, the Medical Colleges and the Homeopathic faction should no longer have direct representation. Although without mandate from you upon the matter, I felt called upon to oppose this Bill for reasons with most of which I need not trouble you just now.