

numerous colleges and schools, would be better than the existing arrangement of a General Council and Board of Examiners, either for the public or the profession; and who would not be willing to exhaust every effort consistent with honor and self-respect, rather than have the present Bill repealed or so changed as to be worthless?

The Legislature of Ontario, reposing confidence in the judgment of the University and Territorial representatives provided in the Act, have deposited the power of governing the profession in their hands, conceiving that they would be alive to its honor, and zealous to promote and direct medical studies according to the advanced state of our science, and meriting by this quality the confidence of the members of the profession.

This high office of controlling the whole body of practitioners and students is now upon trial, and upon your calm and deliberate action, gentlemen, may possibly depend its future measure of power, and the solution of the problem of whether it is possible to steer a straightforward course between Scylla and Charybdis.

Imperfect and objectionable as the Bill by many may be viewed, it has been highly commended by the leading members of the profession in the United States, and an earnest wish has been expressed in the medical journals of various States that a similar Act might be obtained from their Legislatures.

To maintain usefulness and efficiency for the present Bill, it appears to me that the composite nature of our Council should make us pause before acting as the special advocates for this or that party. Of the probable interested nature of an exaggerated advocacy of medical dogmas, the public is so impressed that none but the most violent will bind themselves absolutely to the shibboleth of a party or credit the unconfirmed statements of either side, and if we hope, in time, to abolish the distinctions of practitioners, we must require a uniform education, embracing the several systems of therapeutics. Under the existing system of written and oral examinations only, I can hardly agree with the Editor of the *Lancet*, that we have no right to inquire where a student has obtained his knowledge or concerning the time occupied in acquiring it, as we all know that it is quite possible for a hard-working man by a system of grinding to pass any