

THE CANADIAN Journal of Medical Science,

A Monthly Journal of Medical Science, Criticism,
and News.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—*We shall be glad to receive from our friends everywhere, current medical news of general interest. Secretaries of County or Territorial medical associations will oblige by forwarding reports of the proceedings of their Associations.*

TORONTO, JULY, 1882.

THE MEETING OF THE ONTARIO MEDICAL COUNCIL.

The recent meeting of the Council was upon the whole, the most satisfactory ever held by that body. There was none of the angry discussions, or petty personal conflicts, which often characterized the meetings of the past. In fact, after the business was concluded, there was a serious consultation between some of the old veterans who sighed for the glories of the past, and other ambitious braves, at which the opinion was freely expressed that the proceedings had been too tame entirely. Notwithstanding the disappointment of these few worthy individuals, we must express our great pleasure at the vast improvement shown by the Council in its mode of conducting the ordinary business of this session. Every question which came up was most carefully considered before any decision was reached, and, in consequence, there was none of that hasty and extraordinary legislation, which, in some former years, resulted in numerous astounding and indefensible acts.

Among the many questions considered, one of the most important was that of Examinations and Examiners. It was proposed to institute a change requiring yearly examinations instead of the primary and final, as demanded at present; but as this plan had been tried before, and changed only two years ago, it was decided to make no alterations. Without discussing the merits of the question, we think the decision a wise one, as frequent changes are, to say the least, useless, and at the same time exceedingly perplexing and harassing to the students. The Examining Board will give

general satisfaction. We are glad no sweeping or radical changes were made. Six of the old board were re-appointed, and three new appointments were made. We regret exceedingly, however, that Dr. Eccles, who was one of the most thorough, careful, and efficient examiners the Council has ever had, should have been retained no longer than the miserable term of two years. The appointments of the former examiners from the Toronto Schools, and Dr. Canniff in Surgery, are highly satisfactory. Dr. Oliver, of Kingston, is not well known here, but the fact that he possesses the confidence of his colleagues, should be a sufficient guarantee of his efficiency. Dr. Tye, of Chatham, becomes an examiner for the third consecutive year in the same subject, Physiology. This is one of the cases where the Council has broken through that wretched two-year rule, and we hope he will be retained for seven more years. As to Dr. Dickson, appointed a second year in Materia Medica, eight more years would be satisfactory. Dr. Burdett is well spoken of by those who know him. In discussing the merits of different men proposed as examiners (sometimes, by the way, a very delicate matter) there was evident on the part of the majority a desire to choose men *eminently qualified* for the various positions. Less of the old style of arguments were advanced such as: "There hasn't been a man from my division for some time; it's about time you give us a chance, there's Dr. —, he's a first-rate fellow, besides he worked hard for me in my election." When asked, "Well! what subject do you propose him for," the answer was frequently, "Oh, anything you like! I don't think he's particular." There may be a few universal geniï, who are qualified to examine in any or every subject; they are seldom found, however, in any country but this.

We are glad to notice that a Committee has been appointed to sell the old building at present occupied by the Council, buy a new piece of land, and erect a building better suited for its purposes than the present dilapidated looking edifice. As this property is supposed to be worth from eighteen to twenty thousand dollars, there is no reason why a commodious and suitable building should not be erected in a locality sufficiently convenient for all practical purposes.