

prepared candidates" preferred going before the Homeopathic or Eclectic Boards, because—as we have heard them say—"They could get through a great deal easier, and when they got their licenses they could practice whatever system they liked, and no one would know what Board they had passed. After travelling a good deal through this country, and observing the number of irregular practitioners who flaunt their cards in every place, and the disrespect with which many of the regular profession are spoken of, on account of their attainments, we rejoice more and more that the little despised Province of Ontario has—so far in advance of more pretentious countries—taken the necessary steps for securing an educated, and respected profession, and probably getting rid of those excrescences or fungi which so completely sap the life, force and social influence of the profession in this country.

It is said by some who should know better, that our Bill, makes ALL members of the regular profession, by making ALL members of the College of Physicians, &c., of Ontario; but it *does nothing* of the kind.

The term "Member of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario" signifies nothing more than the old term, "Licensed Practitioner," by which *Homœopath, Eclectic, and Orthodox* were equally known before the passage of the Bill; and, moreover, all must now register the system or sect in which they wish to pass and practice, thereby maintaining more broadly and publicly than before the distinction between us.

It is also said, we are degraded by meeting Homœopaths and Eclectics in the same council, as if members of different religious denominations could not meet in the same Municipal Council, or Legislative Assembly, without becoming mutually tarnished or degraded by the association. If a Homœopath and a regular practitioner meet at the bedside of a patient to determine a course of treatment, while they differ so widely on the principles of practice and the *modus operandi* of medicine, there must be a compromise of principle somewhere; but we think they *can meet in council* to devise the best means of ensuring a high qualification in those branches held common to all, and of securing a fair and honest explanation on those subjects peculiar to each school or sect, *without any such compromise* of principle or loss of respect, either public or private.

The functions of the Council are properly and chiefly executive, and any apparent legislative power possessed has to be exercised within certain

limits prescribed by Parliament, and only go so far as to enable it to *execute* more fully the spirit of the law laid down by the latter. The duties of the Council require no discussion of the peculiar tenets or dogmas of either sect or school, and call for no endorsement of the peculiar views of any member thereof. We say to the members of Council, "Go and enforce an uniform examination according to the theory professed by each sect; but you have nothing to do with the theory, whether it be right or wrong, the Government having licensed them all equally years ago. There are likewise certain fundamental branches acknowledged to be common to all the medical sects, and for these we wish you to establish one uniform standard of qualification. We simply wish you to meet as citizens to execute a law which already indicates your duty; and when you return home, you are not required to consult with Homœopaths or Eclectics any more than you were before."

This, we conceive, is about the whole spirit and intent of the Act; and so far as we can judge of it, after a trial of one year, we believe that most unprejudiced observers will agree that it has been in the highest degree beneficial.

The principle of the Bill is correct, and must commend itself in time to the good sense of the profession. Amendments will follow in due course, and we will hold on to that which is good, notwithstanding the murmurs of those who, like the silversmiths of old, feel their craft to be in danger.

MICHIGAN, Aug. 24th, 1870.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT OF THE VICTORIA UNIVERSITY.

We publish below the letters of resignation of the two Senior members of this Medical School—the Hon. Dr. Rolph and Dr. Geikie:—

TORONTO, July 23, 1870.

REV. SIR,—I have the honor to request you to lay before the University Board my resignation, as Dean of the Medical Department of Victoria College.

In consequence of my recommendations to the Board being unheeded, and the Department having been reorganized in a manner entirely unsatisfactory to me, and three of its most valuable members having seceded, I feel that I can no longer with justice either to myself or the College, continue to preside over it.

I am aware that the feeling in favor of the introduction of the Sectarian element is very strong in