

Canada Medical Journal.

MONTREAL, NOVEMBER, 1867.

We beg to call the attention of our readers to a letter from Dr. Worthington of Sherbrooke, which will be found elsewhere in this number of the Journal, and we trust that the subject of adopting a uniform system of granting licenses to practice Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery in the Dominion of Canada, will be fully argued and freely discussed. We invite discussion on this topic, as we are of opinion that much good will result therefrom. We take exception to the views of Dr. Worthington and chiefly on the point of making the Canadian Medical Association in any way connected with the establishment of the licensing body of the Dominion. What we would gladly see, and what we think is all we actually require, is an act of incorporation of the whole profession, with certain powers hereafter to be carefully drawn up, but at the same time independent of the Canadian Medical Association. The Canadian Medical Association has a far higher mission before it, if properly worked out, than that of regulating the study and practice of the profession. It should be able to recommend certain salutary changes and reforms, and the expression of its opinion should have due weight in inducing those reforms; but inasmuch as it is a scientific body devoted to the advancement of the science of medicine, the subject of regulating the study and practice of Medicine, Surgery and Midwifery seems foreign to its role.

We have before us the experience of a very important body, the members of the profession in Great Britain, and we think that a law similar to that in force in the mother country, modified to suit our altered condition, is all we require. The profession of the Dominion should be incorporated, and by the conditions of that act they should have the power of electing so many representatives for each section, and each of the educational institutions should have the right of sending a given number of representatives; these representatives to constitute the general Medical Council. The Council should have powers of supervision, of prescribing certain laws for the governing of study, both preliminary and professional,