

THE BRANT COUNTY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The usual quarterly meeting of the County of Brant Medical Association was held in the board room of the John H. Stratford Hospital, on 29th June. There was a large attendance of members both from Brantford and the County of Brant present. This Association has had a long and prosperous career, having been organized over thirty years ago, and has held its meetings ever since. Dr. Dunton, Paris, President, and Dr. Keane, Brantford, Secretary. The minutes of last meeting were read and on motion confirmed.

Dr. Philip, Brantford, representative of the Erie and Niagara division in the Ontario Medical Council, by request of the Association gave a highly instructive statement in reference to the affairs of the Medical Council. He described its original formation and the chaotic condition of the profession at that period, showing that there were then no less than three independent licensing bodies in Ontario, viz., the Regular profession, which obtained the license to practise through the various medical schools and colleges, whose diploma entitled the holder to obtain, upon presenting it to the proper authorities, the provincial license; the Homeopathic body, which also had an independent licensing board; and the Eclectics, who also possessed the same authority. In order to obtain a single examining board and a centralized authority and governing body, it was necessary that mutual concessions should be made upon the part of these three independent bodies in order to render it a success, for it was not to be expected that they would surrender their vested rights unless they were secured under the then proposed Medical Act. He alluded to the agitation which had been fostered of late in the press and otherwise against the representatives of the Universities and teaching bodies in the Council, and he claimed that it was in many respects unfair to these gentlemen, as at the formation of the Council the Universities and teaching bodies agreed to surrender their vested rights and privileges with the distinct understanding that they should have due representation in the Council, which was accordingly embodied in the Medical Act, and if there was to be any reconstruction of the Council in the future, he claimed it would be

an act of spoliation on the part of the profession to ignore the claims of the Universities and teaching bodies to a just and fair representation. As Chairman of the Finance Committee he gave a lengthened description of its financial affairs both past and present, and stated that a detailed statement of its income and expenditure from 1866 to the present period had been published by the Finance Committee, and would be sent to every registered practitioner in the province, along with the annual announcement for the present year. He alluded to the erection of the building for the College of Physicians and Surgeons as being an absolute necessity, and which would prove an excellent financial investment, as would be shown in the financial statement. Various other matters dealt with by the Council were discussed at length.

Dr. Harris, the representative of Trinity University in the Council, was also present and gave a lucid statement, chiefly dealing with the educational affairs of the profession. As Chairman of the Committee on Education he gave an account of the work falling to that important committee. He was opposed, as was also Dr. Philip, to the autumn examination, and had contended in the Council that if there was to be only one examination annually, that it should be in the spring. This year, however, there were to be two examinations, in the spring and fall, and in future it might possibly be deemed advisable in many ways that there should be two examinations annually. He defended the action of the Council in making a small assessment upon the profession in the same manner as other professional bodies had done, but believed that the Council would be enabled by and by to do away with it when the income from other sources, which was highly probable, would enable them to do so. He alluded to the good work done by the Council in restraining to a very large extent the quackery and charlatanism which had formerly prevailed to so large an extent, and with which it was so difficult to deal, deferring to the recent cases in which, under the amendment of the Medical Act, the Council had erased from the medical register the names of those who had flagrantly violated the code of ethics. He trusted that the Medical Council would be upheld for the good work which it had accomplished, and for the position which the profession in Ontario held to-day in