

us to the fullest extent from quacks and the holders of worthless degrees, but do not make us appear ridiculous in the eyes of the medical world at large.

#### ONTARIO MEDICAL COUNCIL.

The late meeting of the Ontario Medical Council opened under the presidency of Dr. H. H. Wright, on June 14th. One of the first matters discussed was, the question of raising the standard of matriculation. Nothing definite was, however, elicited, but it was thought that the Council would work harmoniously with the Minister of Education in the direction of raising the standard. This movement is not too early. It is a fact much to be regretted, but none the less a fact, that many of our students come up for their professional education with an extremely narrow field, as far as literary or scientific education is concerned. Let us hope that a new era is about to dawn in this respect, and that while the change may not be too sweeping, it may be sufficient to ensure that medical students shall possess at least a fair general education, in the present meaning of that term, before they shall be allowed to commence their professional work.

Dr. Edward's amendment, as given in another column, was of importance, especially we think, as to the last clause. At the last Council examination, students were in attendance up to 10 and 11 o'clock at night, and of course the examiners were worn out, perhaps cross, for they are human after all, and perhaps also not just in that frame of mind necessary to decide upon the fate of the poor candidate who had to hunt up well worn arteries and nerves by artificial light. However that was, there was much dissatisfaction expressed by those students who came in late at night, and while we know that if a student can not grumble at one thing he will at another, we think Dr. Edward's motion timely. Dr. Burns' idea of insisting on a clinical examination, is certainly in the right line. It will take more time, and add somewhat to the expense, but nothing can be considered too great a sacrifice which adds to the practicalness of our examinations. We hope to see this matter carried through.

The Committee of Discipline, following the late amendment of the Medical Act, was struck. We

congratulate the gentlemen, as also the profession at large, on their appointment, but we do not envy them. The examiners for next year are all well-known men, and will no doubt be satisfactory to all concerned. It is gratifying to know that the financial condition of the Council is on so sound a basis.

#### ONTARIO MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

The late meeting of the Ontario Medical Association was undoubtedly the most successful which has been held by this body since its organization. The number of members attending was greater than ever before, and the general interest of the meeting was increased by the presence of several distinguished visitors and delegates from the different States. Many of the papers read were excellent, and the discussions on them full of interest to all present. We need not say anything further as to the papers presented, as they will appear from time to time in this Journal; but we would like to enter a protest against the *cacæthes loquendi*, displayed by some of the members, who talked apparently for the simple purpose of hearing themselves talk, and took up time with unimportant matter, which might have been more profitably spent in other ways. Some speakers seemed to forget that they were speaking to educated men, and not to students. When we speak of unimportant matter, we do not wish it to be understood that we mean plain, simple, every-day work from which principles may be evolved. Thus, we believe, that the understanding of so simple a matter as the use and abuse of poultices, so clearly put by Dr. Gerster, of New York, is more important than a discussion on, say, peri-typhlitis, albeit the latter name may sound more grand when well rolled on the tongue. But we do think that simple cases, mentioned one after another, with nothing out of the ordinary in them, and leading up to nothing, should be characterized as unimportant, and that the only object the speaker has, is to talk, and to let it be known that he has had cases.

The President, by his uniformly courteous manner, and the great interest he took in the various discussions, as well as by his sound arguments and practical suggestions, did much to augment the interest of the meeting.