

vice versa, and, consequently the advisability of avoiding conjugal intercourse?

The facts stated by Dr. Tappenier are of great interest, and may explain many points of the important question of the contagion of phthisis."

BRITISH MEDICAL BILL.

A Bill to amend the British Medical Act, is now before the House of Lords in Great Britain, having been introduced by the Duke of Richmond. We have not time to go through the Bill in detail, but we notice the following provisions. We observe in the first place, that the much desired scheme of a conjoint examining board for the three kingdoms is practically abandoned in the present Bill, for the reason it appears that "there is a difficulty in Scotland." Instead of the conjoint board, the Bill presents a scheme for enforcing, or endeavouring to enforce, uniform examinations by each body, by rules to be laid down by the General Medical Council.

It is also provided that every person desiring to be registered under this act shall be possessed of a double qualification, *i. e.* a qualification to practice both medicine and surgery, except in the case of Colonial or Foreign practitioners entitled to be registered under the act, without examination, in the United Kingdom. The conjoint scheme for England, except so far as it applies to the admission of women to degrees and diplomas, seems to meet with approval. The College of Physicians has, at a late meeting, indicated its intention to resist any such bestowal of its titles on women, and the College of Surgeons is likely to do the same thing. The right which the Bill proposes to give to women, to claim examination at the conjoint board is, therefore, likely to thwart the carrying out of this object. The clauses giving greater protection to the profession and the public were much needed, and will be warmly approved. The Bill also has some well considered clauses for the registration of dentists and midwives, which are likely to be acceptable to all.

The clauses which more immediately affect Canadian graduates are those relating to the registration of Colonial degrees. It is provided that the General Medical Council shall admit to registration, upon payment of the registration fee, without examination, such holders of recognized

Colonial degrees or diplomas as shall have passed an examination equal to or greater than, that required at the time in the United Kingdom, to entitle to registration. Such Colonial practitioners as are registered under this act shall be entered in a separate alphabetical list; but they have equal rights and privileges with those registered as belonging to the United Kingdom. This is a provision which if it become law, we trust our Medical Council will heartily reciprocate. The provisions of the bill also permit Colonial graduates to practice on lines of steamers sailing to or from British ports, without registration.

Machinery is also provided by certain clauses of the act for striking from the register the names of members guilty of felony, misdemeanor, or "infamous," or "disgraceful conduct in a professional respect." We hope soon to have similar provisions incorporated in our Ontario Medical Act.

THE BILIOUS ATTACKS OF SPRING.

The spring-time is upon us, and with it comes the usual number of complaints of bilious derangements, with lassitude and weakness. It must needs be so, for the body, fortified to endure the excessive rigors of a Canadian winter, has been stuffed with carbon-bearing fats, coddled, pampered and calorified in every way; swathed, of necessity, in winter flannels and heavy garments, which, being still worn, tend to make the perspiration excessive, and also to confine it, causing the body to absorb and re-absorb it, to the great detriment of the system. It is not to be wondered at, therefore, that under these favouring conditions, many diseases are fostered.

By want of proper judgment in the transition from the rigors of winter to the warmth of spring, the machinery becomes clogged, the individual suffers from headache, dyspepsia, irritability of the nervous system, biliousness, depression of spirits, lassitude, &c. And so people go to their daily avocations without zest or spirit, but like the veriest slave driven by the thongs of necessity—filled with morbid feelings of various sorts, and labouring under a peculiar phase of depression of spirits, attributed to the bad weather, and in Canada familiarly called "*the blues*." As an offset to this condition of things, many people resort to