

is in perilous feats of high tumbling on the polemic trapeze. He boldly avers that the "*regulations of Council provide for fall examinations!*"

Now, what are the facts of the case? In the session of 1889-90 the Council adopted a report of its Committee of Education, recommending two examinations each year. This was prior to the employment of an official stenographer, and, consequently, there is in existence, no report of the Council's proceedings, showing in what sense and with what limitations this recommendation was by it endorsed. That it was accepted, however, only on the distinct understanding that it was to apply merely to the then current year we have abundant evidence. We have on record, to that effect, not only the subsequent annual action of the Council, as a whole, which action, Dr. Williams assures you, "speaks louder than words;" but we have both the individual action and words of such men as Drs. Bergin, Henry, Miller, Day, Bray, Britton, Thorburn, Harris, Geikie and, last, but not least, and more especially and most emphatically, of Dr. Williams himself, as quoted below. In every year since its reinstitution, if held at all, the fall examination was authorized by a direct motion in Council to that effect, and a formal vote thereupon. As the Council proceedings are not indexed, and the labor of search is considerable, I beg to refer your readers, who desire to verify this statement, to the locality in each Annual Announcement where they may find this matter discussed and voted on, viz., Announcement for 1891-92, p. 211; that for 1892-93, pp. 183, 184; that for 1893-94, pp. 140-142, and that for 1894-95, pp. 22, 23. And yet, at every one of these meetings in which the Council thus formally decided to hold for that specific year a fall examination, the Registrar was authorized to make the necessary clerical changes in the Annual Announcement of which the plausible doctor prates so prettily, and which authorization had no more to do with the ordering of a fall examination than with the ordering of the new roof required by Micawber Castle.

In the Announcement for 1892-93, p. 169, in the report of the debate on the matter of a fall examination, your readers will find Dr. Williams is reported as saying, "We know that there is at least about one-half of this Council of the opinion that one examination a year is enough. We have received this year the assent of at least all the Education Committee that *this year* it is better to have the two examinations; those of us who are in favor of having two examinations always, should not hesitate to accept that step, and when the next year comes, *let the next year stand upon its merits*, but we had better accept the step now that it is in our favor, and *have the two examinations for this year.*"