

several courses of lectures, and so studied the subjects as to enable him to pass any examination, however searching. Any thing beyond this may, with perfect safety, be entrusted to our medical teachers, who are a body of men of whom any country may well be proud.

We are fully persuaded that neither the profession, nor indeed the Council itself, when the facts of the case are clearly understood, would for a moment sanction any thing so far from right, as the carrying out of so obnoxious a regulation. While we have not hesitated in the past to criticize any action of the Council, open in our view to criticism, we have always done so, as in the present instance, in a spirit of friendship, towards a body which has already done the profession much good, and which, if the policy of making friends rather than foes be adopted, may do much more good in the time to come.

#### MEDICAL LEGISLATION.

The Executive Committee of the Ontario Medical Council is again a suppliant at the feet of the Government of Ontario for medical legislation, asking power to extort from all British graduates the extraordinary sum of *four hundred* dollars for registration in Ontario. It appears that registered graduates of Great Britain have the privilege of practicing in any of the Colonies of Her Majesty's Dominions upon payment of the registration fees in force in such Colonies. This the Ontario Medical Council has all along strenuously objected to, but recently it was compelled to register Dr. Baldwin, of this city, a Canadian however, who possessed British qualifications. The upshot of this, is the present sought-for legislation.

We have always taken the ground that *Canadian graduates*, who subsequently spent a year or two in the Hospitals of London and the continent, and obtained additional qualifications, should be admitted to registration in Ontario upon payment of the ordinary registration fees. We did so chiefly on the principle that the Council was established for the purpose of protecting the public against the introduction of incompetent medical practitioners, and of ridding the community of quacks; and, as these gentlemen had spent extra time and money, and had shown every evidence of

thorough qualification, they should be admitted to registration in Ontario without further expense or examination. We believe if this had been gracefully conceded by the Council, the present case would never have come up for consideration. But, after all, what is there to fear? No British graduates as such, have come to possess the land and drive out our own superiorly qualified? medical men, nor are they likely to. We can manufacture doctors enough for Canada, and should rather exert ourselves in finding a market for the home product. And if no danger is to be apprehended—and the Council cannot show that any exists except in its own imagination—why all this anxiety? Even if a few good English graduates did come amongst us, it would do no harm. Nothing is to be gained in a scientific profession from exclusiveness.

We cannot but express our surprise that so astute a politician as the Premier of Ontario is reputed to be, should introduce such a Bill, and we cannot think that he seriously intends to pass the measure. Even if passed by the Local Legislature, it is more than likely to be vetoed, because it discriminates apparently so unjustly against British practitioners. Legislation to be of much value must proceed from the British Parliament, and we do not think the passage of so unwise and irritating a measure as this would help much in that direction. For our own part, we would very much prefer to have reciprocity in medical matters, between Great Britain and the Colonies. The Medical Council of Great Britain is in favor of something of this kind, and will, we have no doubt, introduce legislation for this purpose, if not checked by the gratuitous snubbing they receive from time to time from our Council.

#### TORONTO ASYLUM REPORT.

The report of the medical Superintendent of the Toronto Asylum for Insane, for the year ending 30th September, 1878, has been received. Dr. Clark has again earned the thanks of the community at large, and of the medical profession in particular, for his latest official contribution to the special science of which he is so earnest and promising a student. His report for the year above noted is one of the ablest and most instructive we

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