

people will not employ a medical man for any other reason than a belief in his professional skill. This truth should be always kept in view by the young practitioner. If acted up to, it will save him from dependence on sham, and rescue him from the snare of hypocrisy. His self-respect will be procured, his professional standing will be improved by enforced and constant study, and a measure of permanent success, not to be attained in any other way, will finally reward him.

If any of our young friends are inclined to doubt the value of this advice, we beg them to refer the question to some experienced medical friend. He will be able to cite sufficient instances in his own neighbourhood to show that the course we have deprecated is in fact a mere confession of inferiority. Within the knowledge merely of the writer, we may state that we have known an obtrusive display of denominationalism to destroy a practice; and we have heard common people say that if a doctor took to preaching the time spent in getting up sermons must have left him less opportunity of studying disease—a common sense view which may well weigh against the supposed advantages to be gained by any such church connection.

To return, we may congratulate the graduates that they have entered the profession at a time when it is not so difficult to find openings for practice as in times past, say a few years ago, when the cry was that the profession in the country was over-crowded.

THE MEDICAL COUNCIL. MATRICULATION EXAMINATION.

We beg to draw the attention of the Council at its coming session, to certain anomalies connected with this important examination. At the last examination nineteen candidates presented themselves, and only eleven passed—*eight out of nineteen were rejected!* surely this is a very large proportion. We understand the cause of so many being rejected not only at the recent, but at each examination since the appointment of Mr. McMurchy as examiner is chiefly, that he decides according to the letter rather than the spirit of the law. In other words, that no matter how thorough an elementary, English and Classical education a young man may have received, if he cannot solve some particular problem

in Euclid or crotchety sum in arithmetic or in algebra; or translate with correctness the special lines of latin, which the examiner may select, is rejected, even if he have what ordinary people would call a very good knowledge of all of these and the other subjects.

What is required, we apprehend is, first that our young men should have a good English education, and also give evidence of a fair grounding in Latin, Mathematics, &c., but the present system does not test this. A young man is rejected without reference to his general knowledge of the required subjects, merely because he fails to answer to the Examiner's satisfaction the few not very clear questions given to him. As proof of this one candidate of excellent education, who passed the preliminary examination for the *fellowship* of the Royal College of Surgeons of England was recently rejected by Mr. McMurchy, not because he did not give evidence of having been over the required ground, but merely because he failed to do the special work assigned him to the satisfaction of the examiner. This is all wrong; it is well known that failure to do correctly a particular question in arithmetic, or in algebra, or a special problem in Euclid, &c., is no proof of being unfit to study medicine, or of knowing nothing of these branches of education. In fact, the Examiner carries out the law to the letter—what is wanted is less by a great deal of the *letter* and more of the *spirit*. One noteworthy anomaly exists. We understand the Examiner receives \$4 for each candidate who is rejected, and only \$2 for each one who passes. Thus for the eight recently rejected he got \$32, and for the eleven passed, only \$22!!

Another thing. Any one who acts as Matriculation Examiner, should have a kindly, attractive manner. There is great complaint about the want of these essentials in the present holder of the position. Like the school boys in Goldsmith's day, our young men going before this Examiner too often, feel sure of being "able to read their day's disaster in the morning face" of him before whom they go tremblingly. We trust the Council will see to this all-important matter.

MEETING OF THE ONTARIO MEDICAL COUNCIL.
—The annual meeting of the Ontario Medical Council will take place on the 1st Tuesday (2nd) of June.