

not had the advantages of a liberal education before entering upon their professional studies, and such an one will also acknowledge that any practitioner, be his other qualifications what they may, would be the better of such ante-professional training and culture. But it might well be asked, has there been a decadence in such liberal education? Speaking for this country we are compelled to say no. The examinations required for matriculation at the universities and for registration with the councils are decidedly in advance of what they were say twenty-five years ago. Perhaps the President means that even yet these examinations are not a test of that liberal education which he would desire all medical students to possess before they enter upon their professional studies. In this we would agree with him, but in the face of the facts we cannot agree with him that the liberal education of medical men of to-day is less than it was in the days that are gone.

As a remedy for all those evils the President proposes a more liberal education for all would-be practitioners. We are at one with him on this point. By all means insist upon this. But will the application of this remedy do away with the terrible array of much to be lamented evils at present existing in the Profession? We think not. Education may improve a man—as a rule it does—but it will not always alter his character. All of us can call to our minds instances of men who have received the highest advantages in the way of liberal education, and who in spite thereof remain as they were by nature, cads and boors. We can also recall instances of men who, denied the advantages of such education, remain what they by nature were, perfect gentlemen. We all know men in the profession who in spite of their liberal education are failures and we at the same time know those who lacking this advantage are yet successful practitioners and an honour to the profession. No. Education will not do everything. It may, it will, improve but it cannot, it does not, alter a man's nature. Again, we might ask, will raising the educational requirements for entrance upon professional studies lessen the overcrowding. In the light of experience we must say no. In the good old days when the profession was not overcrowded the requirements for entrance upon medical studies were low. The standard in this particular was raised. The number of practitioners did not de-