

put his name and address in the papers. Besides these travelling abominations, who take away about \$30,000 of fees from the honest practitioners of Montreal alone per annum, there are several wealthy unqualified practitioners established here for many years who have acquired fortunes by their illegal trade. When a little province like Nova Scotia was able last year to heavily fine and expel these pirates, it seems strange that our own Provincial Board has been able to do so little towards protecting the profession and the public. It is true they only charge us \$2.00 a year, but if that is not sufficient for the purpose of enforcing the law, or of getting better laws, let them charge us more. We also agree with the lecturer in the matter of didactic lectures on certain subjects, such as anatomy and chemistry, the time devoted to which would be with much better advantage directed to practical work in the dissecting room and laboratory. But when he tells them that they must blame the Provincial Board for the four long and weary years of hard study, he may, we fear, have led them into the error of thinking that the course of studies is altogether too long and too severe. About the only good thing the "College" has done has been to raise the standard of preliminary education and to keep the profession from being over-run with half-educated young men. But what annoys<sup>f</sup> the lecturer most of all is the presence of<sup>s</sup> state officials or assessors at the examinations, who, he maintains, have more need of being examined than the students themselves. As the assessors must not be professors in any school, they are chosen from the general profession of the province, and are, of course, apt to be rusty on special subjects. But their presence at an examination is a guarantee that there will be no underhand work, and as they are nearly always men of large experience or practice they can form a very good opinion whether a candidate is grossly unfit to receive a license or not. We have good reason for

believing that since the Provincial Board has been doing even this little, no grossly incompetent men have received a degree or license to practice. Personally we have never had reason to feel anything but pleasure at the presence of the assessors when we were examining. We hope the Provincial Board will keep on raising the standard of the profession in this province so that it may never become so overcrowded as it is in England, where medical men have to resort to the most distressing expedients in order to gain a bare living. Dr. McDonnell also complained very bitterly that after his college has graduated forty or fifty medical men a year, the Medical Board of the little province of British Columbia, with thirty thousand inhabitants has the power to prevent the whole fifty doctors starting practice out there. Now, it is no part of the duty of the professors of a school to find honorable livings for its graduates after they have left its halls. Professors, as a rule, don't care how crowded the profession is as long as they get the fees. But, on the other hand, it is the first duty of the profession to protect itself against the disastrous competition which the schools would inflict upon it if the latter were not under state control; the only machinery the profession has at present for this purpose is the Provincial Medical Boards, which have the power of saying how crowded they will allow its ranks to become. As we believe no one is more anxious than he to see the status of the profession kept up, and as the object of his attack on the salutary provincial boards may only have been to say something that would please the students, we should not, perhaps, take him too literally as meaning what he said. Great Britain and Ireland are far behind us in this respect, and many of the United States are only now following our example. So that we hope that our esteemed confrere will, on reflection, see that it is better for a few professors to lose a few dollars of fees than that thous-