

As this letter appears to have brought the discussion to a head we think it worth while to print it as it was read:—

“I agree with you entirely that reciprocity with Great Britain and interprovincial reciprocity are entirely separate questions, and should be dealt with separately. The former under the new law can be dealt with at once, without waiting for any reconstruction of the Medical Administration of Quebec.

“The one thing essential for a successful application to the King in council, is — that Quebec is prepared to allow duly qualified British practitioners to register and to practise in Quebec without further examination. In other words, that possession of a registered British Diploma shall admit to the Quebec register in the same way as if the holder had a degree from McGill or Laval. If this assurance is conveyed to the Privy Council by the “Provincial Government,” along with their application to have the British Medical Act, Part II, 1886, applied to the Province, I am prepared to advise the Privy Council that the application should be granted.

“There is no need to wait for a Central Examining Board, there is none such in the Australian States, or Italy, or India, which already enjoy reciprocity.

“Supposing the Privy Council grant the application, the next step lies with the General Medical Council. It has to decide what Quebec diplomas shall admit to the British Register. In accordance with precedent it will probably decide that any medical degrees granted in the Province which are registrable in the Provincial Register shall be registrable here. In no case hitherto, where a country or province (*e.g.*, New South Wales or India) has been admitted to reciprocity, has the Council discriminated between the several local universities, and accepted some while it refused others. But it is of course just possible that the Council might refuse to recognize a four years' course — though if that is the rule throughout the Province, and there is no higher standard available, the result would be to render the reciprocity granted by the King in Council a nullity. Such a result would not, I think, be contemplated for a moment by the Council; and if it were, the Privy Council has power to prevent such a fiasco, and could, without more ado, order the Medical Council to register Quebec Degrees. In my opinion, this is the course that would be taken, and justifiably so; and the knowledge of its possibility and probability which the Medical Council possesses should remove any hesitation on your part as to whether the Council would act reasonably or not. It appears to me that the fact that the Quebec College of Physicians is primarily a