

THE WHITE AND BLUE.

VOLUME I.]

TORONTO SATURDAY FEBRUARY 28, 1880.

[NUMBER 16.]

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The White and Blue

is published every Saturday morning of the Academic year,
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Scientific Society. Editor, W. F. Maclean; associate editors,
J. B. Jackson, Walter Laidlaw; business manager, E.
P. Davis.

Annual subscription, \$1; single copies, five cents, to be
had at Winiwirth's, bookstand, Toronto St.

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University College.

THE MEDICAL MATRICULATION.

There are some anomalies in connection with this
examination which I wish briefly to mention through
the columns of THE WHITE AND BLUE, trusting
that by so doing they may come under the notice
of those interested in the welfare of our university.

There are several ways by which one can enter
upon the professional studies of some one of our
many medical curricula, and if all these methods

were on the same footing, then that course which
would likely prove the most useful would certainly
become the most popular. But these modes of
entering are, however, far from being on an equality.
There is an examination before the Council of the
College of Physicians and Surgeons, and one for
each university, which are calculated to test a man's
literary attainments, also to give him the right of
proceeding at once to special branches of study.

The various other universities accept the Council
matriculation with the exception of Toronto. This
regulation has been in existence only for a short
time—its effects being felt for the first time last
spring. The consequence is that nearly all take
the Council entrance examination and apply for
acceptance and registration in some university,
which as I have above stated is granted by all except
Toronto. The effect is to reduce the number of
medical students on the class list. The excellence
of the curriculum of Toronto University would
render her degree in medicine very popular, were
it not for this one drawback. Not many candidates
for matriculation are willing to read two different
sets of texts, and come to the city on two separate
occasions to pass the examinations. The Council
does not accept Toronto University men, nor does
Toronto University accept the Councilmen. Here
then is a deadlock, and as stated nearly all take
the examination prescribed by the Council, and on its
guarantee enter Trinity or Cobourg. Out of about
eighty first year students, Toronto shall not likely
receive more than a dozen. The strength of a
university lies in the number of her graduates, and
to lessen this number is simply to weaken her by
so much. This loss Toronto may yet feel, indeed,
has felt. A more liberal policy with regard to
accepting the educational standard of others is
necessary. It is not the stringency of entrance
work, but the excellence of the after course that
constitutes the main boast of a medical education.
No one would attempt to deny that a good literary
training is highly desirable in any special pro-
fession; yet when the difference lies in the discrim-
ination between two matriculation examinations,
practically equal, it is very much like straining at
gnats and swallowing camels. The easiest way to
overcome this anomaly is for the Senate of Toronto
University and the Council to agree upon a suitable
matriculation in medicine which shall be accepted
by both. It is clear injustice to force candidates
to come twice to the city from distant parts of the
province—it may be from other provinces—to pass
two examinations when one is all that is really
required. As things now stand there is no alternative.
The Council examination is absolutely com-
pulsory. To avoid two examinations, and the time
and expense of coming twice to the city to pass
them the great majority go to other universities.
It may be said in reply that the council accepts
the matriculation in arts of any university. This
is quite true; but it will never meet the difficulty.
The arts matriculation will never be a popular
mode of entering the medical course.

F.