

tige to administer the law, how much more was such a need felt in this country, with its numerous educating and graduating institutions springing up every year, unrestrained by that conservatism which is the characteristic of age, and all actuated by the desire to exhibit the largest class of students and graduates.

I think we may congratulate the profession in Ontario, on the attainment of two objects so important as the establishment of a central Board, and the power to regulate all its own affairs, especially when we see a proposal in the old country, to appoint, by government, an independent, non-professional body, for the purpose of directing and controlling all professional matters.

The profession in Ontario has not only one examining and licensing board, but it has the absolute control of all matters pertaining to the education, examination, and licensing, of all candidates for admission into its ranks.

Every medical man, therefore, in the province has an interest, and a voice, in the admission of all new members, and if we do not use our power in such a way as to raise the general standing of the profession, and secure for it that respect and esteem to which it is equally entitled, with the professions of Law and Divinity, then surely we must prove recreant to ourselves, and to the trust reposed in us.

Remembering how many have graduated during the last fifteen years, we should not be surprised that censorious persons accuse the schools of sending out men unprepared, either by preliminary education, or professional training, to discharge safely, satisfactorily, or creditably, the onerous and important duties devolving upon them, either as professional men, or private citizens, nor shall we forget that the establishment and enforcement of such a curriculum, as that promulgated by the Ontario Medical Council, while it removes all possible ground for such censure and accusation, will likewise enable our future licentiates to compare favourably with those of any other country, and command that respect, in any position in life, to which, as members of a liberal profession, they are entitled.

Let us refer to the curriculum contained in the published "rules and regulations of the Council,"—a copy of which has been sent to every registered practitioner in Ontario—and say if a candidate who has passed a satisfactory examination in all the subjects there required for matriculation, has not given evidence of a respectable minimum of literary attainment, and the possession of a mind moderately well trained for the further acquisition of literary and scientific knowledge.

It is worthy of notice that hereafter, the period of medical study only counts after the candidate has matriculated, and extends over four full years, unless he is a graduate in arts, when three will suffice.

During that time he must attend lectures in a school or college, approved by the Council, for three sessions of six months each, and during the last, he must take not less than four subjects, he must spend 12 months in the office of a qualified practitioner, attend hospital 12 months and assist at six cases of midwifery. He will then have to be examined by eight members of the regular profession on "Descriptive and Surgical Anatomy, Medical Pathology and Medical Diagnosis, Theoretical and Practical Chemistry, Physiology and Sanitary Science, Toxicology, and Medical Jurisprudence, Operative Surgery and Surgical Pathology, Botany, and Operative Midwifery."

The above examination has to be undergone by all candidates, and I submit that a man who has satisfactorily fulfilled and passed the foregoing curriculum and examinations, furnishes pretty good evidence that he is not grossly ignorant of the first principles of a common English education, or notoriously deficient in his professional knowledge as many are said to be, who yet stand on a perfect equality, before the law and the public, with the most elevated, refined, and educated, in our ranks.

Yours, till another time,

OBSERVER.

Does Alcohol Warm the Body?

Editor Dominion Medical Journal.

DEAR SIR:—In the *Practitioner* for September is an interesting article on this subject, by Professor Ling, of Bonn, and his conclusions are:

"That the heat of the body is always lowered by alcohol, and that alcohol preserves life in febrile affections, where the temperature rises very high, by its antipyretic properties.

"That extreme depression of the vital powers in febrile cases, is most frequently dependent upon the temperature of the blood, and passes off when it falls.

"That the number and strength, of the contractions of the heart, always rise under the use of alcohol. Whenever, therefore, such an effect would be injurious, alcohol would be an improper remedy.

"That in all probability alcohol lowers the temperature, by the retarding influence which it exerts over the oxidizing process."

If it be true that alcohol stimulates the nervous system, and retards the oxidizing or combusive process in the body, we can more readily under-