

strenuous efforts and untiring zeal have brought so nearly to an accomplishment, an achievement upon which I now offer both you and him my warmest and most sincere congratulations—if such a body, I say, be now happily about to be constituted, then, following the suggestion offered by Sir Wm. Banks, this most important duty of regulating the standard of entrance might well be entrusted to it.

But it is upon the character and quality of this entrance examination that I feel most strongly, and the strength of my feelings forces me to the imprudence of trespassing further upon your patience.

Dr. MacNeill, of Stanleybridge, P.E.I., presented this matter most forcefully and skilfully to the Maritime Medical Association at its meeting last month, and I heartily commend his address to your perusal as a most powerful argument in support of my position. (Maritime Med. News, Aug., '99.)

I am not of those who think that a degree in science alone is the proper and essential precursor of entrance upon medical studies, but I hold strongly to my ancient faith in the *literae humaniores*—the basis of what was called in my younger days “the education of an English gentleman”—as the proper substratum and foundation work upon which to build the superstructure of a professional education. Such a course is particularly suited for the medical practitioner, doing away largely with the evils above complained of, exacting a higher degree of culture and refinement—thus diminishing the internal pressure of numbers, and by the establishment of a higher sense of professional character and conduct, effacing many of the crudities and barbarities which now obtain, for as Ovid long ago averred, “*Emollit mores nec sinit esse feros.*”

That nothing short of the highest and best preparation will do for the medical profession you, of course, will all readily admit, but it is a peculiar source of gratification, and encouragement of high ideals, to find a man of so much eminence, of such genuine refinement and of such a wide experience of men and manners as Lord Roseberry, affirming, as he did on last Prize Day at Epsom College (July 29th), the association of which with the profession is peculiarly close, that “The medical profession in its science contained perhaps the most supreme elements of manhood of all the professions” and in the development of this “manhood” the headmaster (the Rev. T. N. Hart-Smith) on the same occasion said:—“Their aim at Epsom College was to train the boys on sound principles so that they might have a good general education—and by sound principles he meant classics and mathematics—and to turn out, not necessarily scholars and prize winners, but boys of the right stamp who were able to set an example in whatever situation they might be placed.” Such boys are doubtless the fathers of the right stamp of men.

But not only for the vocation of medicine amongst scientific pursuits