

Too many valuable lives in our Profession are sacrificed yearly to intemperance ; and, now is the time for you, with minds still " wax to receive and marble to retain," to lay the foundation of good sober habits.

Those of you from Ontario, and intending to practice there, will, I suppose, present yourselves to the Medical Council for examination. This much abused institution is, I believe, doing good service to the Profession of that province, and it is to be regretted that such an examining body does not exist for the Dominion. In a country like this where the power of granting degrees in Medicine is possessed by all the sectarian Universities, it is but just that the profession at large, should have some guarantee of the proficiency of the graduates ; and this they can only obtain by combining together, as in Ontario, and examining every man for his license. The examinations are thorough, conducted with fairness, and such as no McGill man who has attended to his studies need fear. Just as Edinburgh men sometimes fail at the Primary and Final Examinations before the Royal College of Surgeons, so occasionally will men from the Universities of Canada be rejected at the Ontario board. As an independent examining body it may yet do much towards elevating the standard of Canadian medicine by making the necessary qualifications of a higher order than they are at present. Hitherto it has not afforded much protection against illegal practitioners, but now, as the finances are in a better condition, the Council is prepared to take action, and intends to prosecute unlicensed men. One hears the assertion not unfrequently made that the existence of the Board is prejudicial to the interests of our Medical school, as it hinders Ontario students from coming here. I do not see how this can be the case. The Ontario student, whether he attends the Toronto schools or McGill, has the same examinations to pass, one before his University, the other before the Board. It entails an additional expense, and it is this, not the examinations with which all the students find fault.