

On account of the peculiar construction put on the Examiner's action, the Registrar produced the papers which had been reviewed by the Council, and called in Dr. Thorburn, a professor in the school in which he had studied, to be present. An interview was held, and young Sangster was handed each paper in turn, and asked if they were his, and acknowledged them to be so. He was then shown his marks, and why he had been plucked. Hence the publicity. Our explanation is given of this circumstance, not to try and persuade the father that everything was done fairly, but simply to give the profession at large an idea of how he views all actions of the Council with a decidedly biased mind.

The remainder of his letter is a glorification of himself and a tirade against the members of the Council. It is laughable in its virulence, and can only be put down to the condition of his mind. The bee in his bonnet hums vigorously whenever the Medical Council is thought of, and tries to sting by making uncalled-for and unreliable statements. We are glad to see that he acknowledges the back yearly subscriptions of part of the profession to be honest debts, and we must ask, after this acknowledgment, "Why are they not paid?" His remarks as to them being a mainspring of action is due simply to unguarded remarks of several prominent members of the Defence Association giving us a strong clue, and to the remarkable unanimity with which all members of that Association agree in leaving these "honest debts" unpaid.

FIVE YEARS' COURSE.

The regulation passed by the Council to the effect that all students registering after July 1st, 1892, will be required to put in a five years' course of study in medicine, will soon be in force with all. The law was changed, giving all who matriculated before November 1st of that year the same privilege. As time goes on, the force of this will be seen. The necessity of going through five years will make better students, and give a much greater chance for clinical work, thus improving the new blood in the medical profession. In former times many men, by a little struggling and presentation of school certificates, were enabled to

get through their course in a short time, but now that will be impossible.

Besides this very wholesome regulation, the standard for the matriculation has been greatly raised, thus bringing a better educated class of men into the work. The action of the Council is to be greatly admired in this work, and the professional men whom they represent should remember this in summing up their record.

TRAINED NURSING.

Of all the features that serve to mark out the present century from those of the past, none is more noteworthy than the prominence and attention given to whatever will lighten the suffering of the unfortunate, whether due to poverty, age, or disease. Man's *humanity* to man to-day far outweighs his inhumanity in these regards at least. Indeed, owing to this fact, and to the great increase of knowledge of disease due to the untiring efforts of the scientist and the skill thus obtained in rendering disease less fatal, the fear has been expressed by some that the race will degenerate, since not only will the fittest survive, but also very many from the great army of the unfit, who, in an age less humane and less skillful, perished early in the battle for life, and so happily failed to prolong their life and bequeath their weakness. Whether such a fear is called for, or whether superior knowledge and care will not rather tend to eradicate disease and ever lessen the number of the unfit we will not now discuss, but among all the agencies whose object is the preventing and alleviating the ills of the flesh, that of skilled nursing deserves a first place. How many a life is made one of weakness and misery, owing to lack of proper care during its first few weeks! How many an acute disease, instead of clearing away, lingers on in chronic form for the remainder of a shortened lifetime, owing to lack of the care a skilled nurse can give! And by skilled nursing we mean that which is to be gained in a properly conducted training-school for nurses. Natural gift will do much in supplying the lack of a school-training, but can never take its place. As in other professions a special training is required. In order to successful work, the work must be intelligible to the worker, and, in nursing, this entails a considerable knowledge of anatomy,