

should be a tax on the Hospital funds; on the contrary, they should be a means of contribution to the general support of the institution.

While looking after the mote in the eyes of our brethren at Ottawa, how do we stand on this very same question in Montreal? Not just where we think we should. The private wards of the Western, Notre Dame and Hotel Dieu hospitals are open to the entire profession, but those of the Montreal General Hospital are closed to all but members of the Staff. It is true this institution now has but few private wards; still if vacant they should be rented to the first comer.

When the old wing is remodelled, there will be an increased number of private wards. The "General" is a democratic hospital in a sense, and the outside Medical profession can make themselves heard if they desire to do it. Perhaps they may. The movement in Ottawa was a surprise. Is there another in store for us here?

THE MEDICAL BILL.

After a good deal of knocking about between the two branches of the local legislature, the proposed new Medical Bill for the Province of Quebec has been withdrawn. It had some good points in its favor, but what killed it was the reciprocity clause which allowed foreigners to be licensed without examination. The Universities were naturally opposed to having their rights and privileges curtailed by having their graduates compelled to pass another examination before the Provincial Board. If the latter learned body will excuse us for making a suggestion, we would urge it to do well two things which it already has full power to do: First, to limit the number of practitioners by raising the standard of candidates who are about to begin the study of Medicine, so that it would be impossible for

those who are uneducated and unrefined to become medical students after a few months' training; and second, to employ a detective and a smart young lawyer to harass and persecute in every possible way the numerous charlatans who infest the Province. We feel sure that no one would begrudge the annual fee of two dollars if the College of Physicians would do something in return for the money. But we cannot wonder at the young practitioner objecting to pay to the funds of the College when he sees the latter allowing advertising charlatans to take in by their nefarious methods as many hundreds of dollars in a week as he does in a year by hard and honest work. The officers of the Collège may say that it is difficult to prevent these eminent quacks from practising here, but the Ontario College succeeded in driving them out of the country, and the authorities in Ireland succeeded in landing them in gaol or penitentiary; so that the thing is not impossible.

The raising of the standard by the Medical Board above referred to would only apply to those who desire to practise in this Province; the universities may safely be left to deal with the question of the entrance examination of those who intend to practise elsewhere. If the miners of British Columbia or the lumbermen of Michigan and the medical boards of these countries are all satisfied with an M.D. who knows nothing of Greek or Metaphysics, that is their affair and not the business of our Medical Board, which has only to look after those practitioners who are manufactured for use in the Province. As we have often said, each Province or State should see that its own professional men are not subjected by over-crowding to too keen a struggle for existence.

ALBUMINURIA AND LITHÆMIA.

We are pleased to notice in an editorial of the *Northwestern Lancet* of 15th Feb.,