

thy of occupying a small portion of our own Bill. It is provided, that *no one shall be permitted to become a scholar in any public educational institution, nor is he permitted to be confirmed or married, unless he has been previously vaccinated, or had the small pox !* In the event of small pox breaking out in a house or locality, every individual in that house and locality must be immediately vaccinated, unless he previously had suffered under the disease, or "have been successfully vaccinated within the previous five years." "Inoculation for small-pox is declared penal, and punishable by fine and imprisonment."

The close system of medical surveillance which is thus provided for in the Bill, is somewhat remarkable. It cannot, however, but be productive of the most beneficial consequences, and exhibits the anxious solicitude of the Government on the matter.

Of the peculiar nature of the preliminary and professional education of the practitioners, we are not informed, beyond the fact, "that no one is permitted to practice medicine in Norway, who has not passed his examination at the UNIVERSITY OF CHRISTIANA." By way of a parenthesis, we may here observe, that the population of Norway does not exceed that of Canada, being estimated at about a million and a half of souls.

Fines and imprisonment are the summary punishment of all who practice without due license. And lastly, the whole medical affairs of the kingdom are placed under the exclusive superintendence of a Council, composed of three members, appointed by the Crown, to which a fourth may be added from among the Apothecaries, if his assistance be required, to whom all the Inspecting Physicians are responsible, and to whom they are bound to report as to the sanatory condition of the respective districts over which they are appointed to preside.

We have thrown these observations together by way of an introduction to our future remarks on our own Bill. This Bill we intend to publish in our next number, with, if possible, the amendments which have been effected upon it, by the Medical Committee to which it was referred. We see no reason why, in obtaining an enactment at all, bearing on such important interests as are involved in the study and practice of medicine, it should not be a good one at once—one which will place such matters here on a level, at least, with those of other enlightened countries. We are satisfied that in this respect we but enunciate the sentiments of the profession generally, and we shall be happy to record the opinions of any individual members of it on our pages.

The British Medical Bill.

The following proceedings took place in the British House of Commons, on Tuesday, Feb. 25. It will fur-

nish us some clue to the nature of the amendments to be effected in the Medical Bill of Great Britain :—

Sir James Graham then rose to bring in his bill for the better regulation of Medical Practice throughout the United Kingdom. If discussion necessarily led to amendment, his bill of last session had been amply discussed. To three leading features of that bill he still adhered. First, the Council of Health, affording a board in this metropolis of easy access to the Government on all questions affecting the sanatory state of the people. Second, to secure to the medical profession equal facility of practice, and to the public, security that there shall be equality of attainments. And third, a registry, which will confer local notoriety, and give the only legal title to the medical man. He intends to repeal that part of the act of Henry VIII., conferring the exclusive privilege of practising in and about seven miles round the metropolis ; but he proposes to exclude the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge from the operation of the bill, in the hope that before it reaches the stage of consideration in committee, some arrangement will be made between the College of Physicians and the Universities, which will arrange the differences between them. He does not now think it expedient to propose the entire repeal of the Apothecaries' Act, as contemplated in the bill of last session. That proposal is modified in the present bill into a partial repeal, which will leave the penalties untouched, and give to the Company of Apothecaries all the right to prosecute, and that security which they now have. Feeling the difficulty of adding a new crime to our criminal jurisprudence, he would not affix a specific penalty, but proposes to class false personation of the medical character as a misdemeanor, to be punished with such penalty as the court before which it is tried, may think fit to inflict. A University education will be required as essential to the qualification of a Physician, though not of a surgeon. Anxious to sustain the character, honour, and station of the general practitioner, he will not propose a distinct incorporation, but is desirous of seeing them continued associated with that noble institution the College of Surgeons, in the Council of which he thinks that general and country practitioners ought to be represented, and on which he will confer a power it does not now possess—that of removing from the registry any member convicted of a criminal offence, or of false personation. He had also given by his last bill power of licensing in medicine and in surgery to the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons in Glasgow. He had given that power under a misapprehension, and he therefore withdrew it from his present bill. These were the principal alterations he had made in the bill of last session, and he now committed his present bill to the candid consideration and examination of the profession.

Mr. Wakley considered the amendments introduced into the bill as a proof that Sir James Graham was anxious to conciliate, and hoped that all difficulties would be amicably arranged.

Leave was then given to bring in the bill, as also another bill to enable her Majesty to grant new Charters to certain Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons. At a late hour Sir Jas. Graham brought in both these bills, and had them read a first time. He fixed the second reading for the 7th of April.

At the close of the last Session of the Legislature, the Governor-General assented to two acts of incorporation, the one for the "School of Medicine" at Quebec, the other for the "School of Medicine and Surgery" in this city. We regret exceedingly that the Act for the former has been so altered, as to render it entirely inapplicable to their circumstances, in as much as by compelling the lecturers to deliver their courses between the months of October and May, the advantages derivable from their connexion with the Marine Hospital, which affords during the summer months, such splendid opportunities to students for witnessing surgical practice, are completely negated.