

for cases of sickness, and failure in one or two subjects, with evidence of proficiency in the rest, will prevent the application of this regulation from being unduly rigid or severe.

Here, again, graduation in arts in the University, with honours in the department of Natural Sciences, very properly confers a certain advantage, such graduates being exempt from the first professional examination and ranked in the first-class honour list of that examination. They are, of course, however, obliged to take the anatomy of that examination along with the second professional examination. Fixing the pass standard at 50 per cent. of the maximum number of marks in all subjects, and at  $33\frac{1}{3}$  per cent. in each individual subject, is not being excessively exacting; and we think that any future changes will have to be in an upward direction. However, for the present this will suffice. The exaction of certificates of practical and laboratory instruction in anatomy, inorganic chemistry, natural philosophy, botany, zoology, histology, physiological chemistry, practical pharmacy, chemistry in relation to hygiene and forensic medicine, the dissection of the human body twice, proficiency in vaccination, clinical instruction in a public Lunatic Asylum, and attendance upon twelve autopsies, is an innovation fraught with the highest utility, and calculated beyond all cavil to secure thoroughness of training and practical proficiency. It is quite clear that the outcome of these clauses, and, perhaps to a certain degree, their design, is to compel attendance at the new government school of practical science, as being the only place at which the facilities for complying with many of these regulations can be obtained.

The clinical instruction in lunacy will be especially valuable, this being a department of medicine now too much neglected by practitioners in general, since, for the most part, they alone are called upon to diagnose and treat the incipient and curable stages of those morbid physical processes whose issue is "the mind diseased." In the honour course seventy-five per cent. has been fixed as the minimum of marks entitling a candidate to be ranked in the first class, and sixty-six per cent. in the

second class, at any of the professional examinations; and at the final examination for the degree of M.B., only those candidates will receive first-class honours who have been placed in the Honour List in all of the four professional examinations, and who have succeeded in obtaining first-class honours in at least three out of the four. In order to be placed in the second class Honour List at the last examination the candidate must have been placed in the Honour List in three out of the four professional examinations, and must have succeeded in obtaining first-class honours in at least one of the Professional examinations. This regulation will, very properly, render honours at the last examination very difficult to obtain, and also makes them contingent upon manifested proficiency throughout the course.

One of the most laudable changes in the whole curriculum, and one in complete consonance with the spirit of the age, is the institution of clinical examinations in medicine and surgery at the third and fourth professional examinations. What is still required to make the amendments well-nigh perfect is a demonstrative or practical examination in the subjects of anatomy, pathology, histology and materia medica, such as have been provided for in chemistry. As far as attendance upon didactic lectures is concerned, the curriculum manifests an inclination to subject students to over-lecturing, unless, indeed, the requirement of attendance upon so large a number of lectures should lead to the very desirable result of inducing the teaching bodies to extend the length of their winter sessions to nine months, and to relegate certain subjects (botany, materia medica, hygiene, &c.,) to the summer session. The requirements for admission to the degree of M.D. remain the same as heretofore.

Much propriety and wisdom appears to us to have been manifested in excluding graduates or undergraduates in medicine in any other University from competing for the scholarships or medals. These enactments are prospective, and the regulations relating to the first professional examination come in force in 1879; those for the second, in 1880; for the third, in 1881; and for the fourth in 1882.