

foreign degrees. The result of their labors is the Bill now laid before the House.

The principal, we might say the only, change in the present Bill from the preceding one, is to be found in the eighteenth section:

SEC. 18. *Persons not qualified until six months after passing of this Act to be examined before committee, etc.*—Every person desirous of being registered under the fifteenth section of this Act, and who shall not have become possessed of any one of the qualifications in the said schedule "A" mentioned, before the expiration of the period of six months after the passing of this Act shall, before being entitled to registration, present himself for examination as to his knowledge and skill for the efficient practice of his profession, before the Committee of Examination in the next section mentioned; and upon passing the examination required, and proving to the satisfaction of the Committee of Examination that he possesses one or more of the qualifications enumerated in schedule "A," and that he has otherwise complied with the rules and regulations made by the General Council, and on the payment of such fees as the Council may determine, such person shall be registered, and in virtue of such registration to practice medicine, surgery and midwifery in the Province of Ontario.

The meaning of this section, stripped of its verbiage is, that every holder of a diploma mentioned in schedule "A," obtained six months after the passage of this Act, must satisfy the Council as to his competency to practice medicine, surgery, midwifery, etc., in Ontario.

Before, however, discussing the advisability, we must decidedly protest against the action that the *Leader* newspaper has taken with regard to the amendments.

Any journal has a right to criticize, favorably or unfavorably, according to its merits, any amendments to any Act affecting the public interests; but it savors too strongly of a paid special pleader when a paper indulges in such wild statements as are mentioned in an editorial of the above named journal, dated 23d November, 1868.

The members of the committee who drafted this Bill are dubbed "concocters," members of a "clique," while the writer of the article says "the Bill is a surprise," has "been introduced surreptitiously," etc. He magnanimously exonerates Dr. McGill from all blame in the matter.

The five members of the committee belong to no clique, they are simply gentlemen in country practice in the Province of Ontario, and the whole of them have witnessed, with mingled feelings of shame and disgust, the natural result of cliquism so far as regards medical teaching in Toronto.

Those gentlemen may have, in the eyes of certain Toronto journalists, little political influence or weight, therefore they are concocters. Dr. McGill, however, because he is in the House of As-

sembly, is exonerated from any connivance with the "clique" whose work he is accused of unconsciously doing.

On referring to the minutes of the second annual session of the Medical Council, we find that Dr. Aikens, of Toronto, brought forward, seconded by Dr. McGill, a motion with reference to the appointment of a Central Examining Board (vide pp. 10 and 5 of the General Council of Medical Education, etc., May, 1867.)

We then had the pleasure of hearing Dr. McGill speak in favor of a Central Medical Board, and in 1868, at Guelph, we again heard him state that he would assist the committee in attaining that end. Dr. McGill is, however, not the man to be taken in by such a petty ruse as the *Leader* has employed.

Another point we consider objectionable is the course adopted by the *Leader* in its publication of an article entitled "A Protest from Montreal;" the value of such a protest might perhaps be of weight if the writer or writers had appended his or their names to the article in question.

The *Canada Medical Journal*, for November, in a very complimentary notice of THE DOMINION MEDICAL JOURNAL, states that the mass of the profession in Ontario is opposed to the creation of a Central Medical Board, and the *Leader* reiterates the statement.

We say advisedly, in reference to such statements, that the great mass of our profession in Ontario, with the exception of a few connected with the schools, are in favor of a Central Board of Examiners.

The competition between the rival schools of medicine in this Province for the last five years at least has been so great that it has become a public scandal, and the *Leader* itself while lauding to the skies the colleges of the Dominion, is forced to admit (Nov. 25, 1868) "That the bickerings of the profession are a bye-word if not a hissing, among us. You can hardly get half a dozen men allied to rival schools to come together for any common purpose," and under "such circumstances," the writer most inconsequentially adds that the establishment of a Central Board of Examiners would only be to "legalise a scandal."

There is no doubt that the bickerings of the profession are a bye-word, that men belonging to the rival schools at present cannot come together for a common purpose, and on that very account have the "concocters" of this scheme recommended the adoption of a Central Medical Board, hoping by that means to do away with those bickerings, which have not only rendered us ludicrous in the