

come to such meetings simply to hear papers read, they want to hear and engage in discussions—and if a little spice be added to the same, all the better. It has been found somewhat difficult, if not impossible, to get through the work in two days. Want of time prevented the completion of the programme, and also curtailed many discussions.

The profession of Toronto looked after the visitors very well. The plan of entertaining them at luncheon on the second day was a success. It brought all together in a pleasant way at a very reasonable cost. Our friends from the United States received a cordial welcome and did much to add to the literary character of the meeting. The next meeting will be held in Toronto under the presidency of Dr. R. A. Reeve.

#### THE ONTARIO MEDICAL COUNCIL.

The report of the committee appointed by the Council to consider proposed changes in the curriculum was presented at the recent meeting, and with some slight amendments, adopted by that body. The changes involved are so radical as to be somewhat startling, especially to those who were satisfied with the old order of things. The following is a brief statement of the most important features:

For matriculation they will require certificates of having passed the departmental university examination for matriculation in Arts, with Latin among the optional subjects compulsory, and the Science subjects in addition.

The course after matriculating will consist of five years, of which the student must attend four full winter sessions and one summer session. Half of the fifth year may be spent in the office of a physician, or in a hospital, at the student's option; but the other half must be spent in a hospital, or in a scientific laboratory, working at physiology or pathology. Arts graduates, who have taken a Science course, will be allowed a year.

The Council will conduct three examinations:—A primary at the end of the second year, on subjects which have been taught in the first and second years; an intermediate at the end of the third (for Science graduates in Arts) or fourth year, on all the final subjects, which shall

be written and oral; a final at the end of the fifth year, on the practical subjects, which shall be oral only.

The number of purely didactic lectures have been reduced about one-half, and new requirements have been added for practical laboratory work.

The curriculum, as amended, is much like the latest curriculum adopted by the Medical Council of Great Britain. It probably demands more in certain directions, but especially in the requirements for matriculation. The leaving examination of the Education Department, as it is modified by the Council, will require a fair knowledge of chemistry, physics, comparative anatomy, and botany, before the student can enter upon his regular medical course.

Altogether the standard, according to the new requirements for a license to practise in Ontario, will probably be higher than that of any other country in the world. We will not undertake, in this issue, to discuss the question; but will simply offer our congratulations to the committee for the thorough manner in which they investigated the whole subject, and for the very able and complete report which they presented.

#### HIGHER MEDICAL EDUCATION IN PHILADELPHIA.

At the meeting of the Board of Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania, held May 21st, Dr. Pepper made an offer of \$50,000 towards an endowment fund of \$250,000, and of \$1000 annually towards a guarantee fund of \$20,000 annually, for five years, conditioned upon the establishment of an obligatory graded four-year course of medical study. This was accompanied by a communication from the medical faculty, pledging themselves to carry out this proposal, and to enter upon the four-year course in September, 1893. It was also reported that the members of the medical faculty had themselves subscribed \$10,000 annually for five years to the endowment fund. The Board of Trustees expressed warm approval of the proposed advance in medical education, but postponed their assent until the success of both funds had been demonstrated.

The fine Laboratory of Hygiene, built by Henry C. Lea, Esq., will, it is expected, be