

legislative enactments. No other profession is looked upon by the people in the same way. Account for it as you will, the public look upon us when trying to raise the standard of education with suspicion and distrust that it is a scheme to raise our fees. A little reflection would convince them that it is truly in their own interests and to protect their lives, and that mercenary motives are secondary with us while primary with the people themselves. Is it unreasonable that we should insist on a high standard of medical education? I think not. The Church precepts and text of the sacred volume require such a standard of education and a curriculum of seven or eight years including an arts course, and the people appear quite satisfied that it should be so. The disciples of Blackstone also require a high standard of education. The candidates must pass a preliminary examination and a course of five years. If the precepts and text of the sacred volume require such a standard of education, if the statutes of parliament and the common law require an equally high standard to interpret, what can be said against us requiring of our followers that they be educated men, when they have to deal with a constitution that is fearfully and wonderfully made? Instead of repulsive epithets we should be hailed by the people as benefactors.

There is no pursuit that calls for a larger display of the best qualities of human nature than the practice of medicine, and one of the most essential elements among medical men is a reputation for high qualifications and accurate knowledge of their profession. The great Dr. Pepper, when Provost of the University of Pennsylvania said "the vast improvements that have taken place in medical science, the additions to the positive knowledge of disease and of the means for its prevention and cure, the widespread interest among the community concerning all physical science, the prevailing sense of the supreme importance of private and public hygiene, the constantly increasing wear and tear of our complicated social life—all of these foretell the large part which our profession must play in the future and at the same time attest its power."

This covers the whole ground and is sufficient to vindicate our course. In order to convince the people and the profession that we are not travelling too fast, nor asking unreasonable things in our efforts to elevate the standard of medical education in Canada, let us briefly look at the state of medical education in other countries. Instead of being considered aggressive, it will be seen that we are but humble followers in this movement. Superstition and mystery are fast fading away and the feeling with which science and medical men are regarded has undergone an equal change in all countries.

THE GERMAN EMPIRE.—(Population forty-one millions.)—There are twenty-three universities which confer the doctorate. To matriculate,