

had arrived to consider the much vexed Bill. He said that it would be in the recollection of many of the members of the association that at the meeting held three years ago in the City of Toronto in Ontario, which was a very large and influential meeting, a resolution was almost unanimously passed, appointing a committee to draw up a Dominion Medical Act, the object of which was to render the system of medical education, medical examination and registration, uniform throughout all the Provinces of the Dominion. The Association at that time seemed to have imbibed the spirit which was so rampant in political circles, respecting Confederation. It did not require very much forethought, nor did it require very much sagacity to see what a great boon it would be to the medical profession generally to have a uniform system of admission to the practice of medicine throughout the whole of Canada. Amongst the best minds at that meeting, the oldest and most matured minds, there was a general *consensus* that it would be a great boon to the profession if the young men, in all the provinces, had to go through a somewhat similar course of instruction, so that there should be the same standard of education, both preliminary and scientific. Starting with that great general principle, it was determined to get a representation of the interests of each province and each university, which should form a committee to consider the subject. In the discussion of the Bill it was right to say that a very active part was taken by the members of the profession of Montreal. It so happened that he was appointed the chairman of the committee, and that being a very important post he naturally consulted with the influential members of the profession residing in Montreal. They had several meetings, which were attended, some of them, by gentlemen who were not members of the committee, and who represented the profession generally. Independently of those meetings he had held extensive correspondence with gentlemen in the various provinces, and all the suggestions thrown out by these persons were embodied, as far as they could be, in the bill, when it was presented to the committee for the first time in Session at Ottawa. That Committee met the day previous to the General meeting, and it was 3 o'clock in the morning, before the bill reached the state in which it was presented to the association at Ottawa. At that meeting it was agreed by general consent that only the great principles of the bill, the great matters upon which there might really be honest difference of opinion, should be discussed, and the minor matters of detail left to be discussed afterwards. A series of very important amendments were adopted at Ottawa, altering very much the character of the bill. The number of representatives was altered, the proposals to have branch councils was rejected, and it was agreed that there should be but one examining board, so that, as they would see, three very important principles in the bill were altered, though not in his opinion, improved. It was then agreed that the bill as amended should be printed and distributed amongst the profession and brought up for discussion at the next annual meeting to be held at

Quebec. It so happened that the amendments were not embodied in the body of the bill, but were printed upon the back. When the Committee met at Quebec, they proceeded to embody them in the body of the English bill, and so presented it to the meeting. It was not however seriously discussed, as the French members of the association objected strongly to its discussion being then entered upon, as the amendments were not embodied in the body of the French copy of the bill. In this way discussion was evaded, and no progress was made. At the Ottawa meeting, the Ontario members being present in large numbers, had spoken—in fact it was their vote, which extinguished the branch Councils, and substituted one great Central Examining Board, but as there were few Lower Canadian members present, their voice was not heard. Last year at Quebec, the discussion was evaded, but to-day he hoped to get an expression from his fellow practitioners of French origin. What he asked the association to do now was to proceed to discuss the leading clauses of the bill, so as to get an expression of opinion from the association, respecting the great principles involved in the measure, and not to attempt to take up all the clauses. He would mention further the clauses which he believed to be the principal ones. The fourth was that respecting the General Council, and of course was one of the most important clauses, dealing as it did with the number of members to compose it, and the proportion to be assigned to each province. Then clause 21 was one of the leading clauses of the bill, for it was one affecting the registration, and determining whether a young man should not only hold a diploma from a University, but also pass an examination before the Licensing Board, or whether the diploma should be sufficient. The 24th was important, empowering the Council to appoint a board of examiners; the 25th would naturally be one of these important clauses, for it decided who should compose the examining board, and what interests should be represented. The 26th also came under the same category, as it defined the powers of the councils in the matter of examining students, and the 28th clause which gave power to the Council to recognize or otherwise new medical schools. These clauses really contained the pith of the whole Act, and if they could agree respecting the principles involved in these clauses, there would be no difficulty in arranging the details afterwards. Therefore, he moved that the Association should resolve itself into a committee to proceed to discuss the bill.

The Association then went into Committee, Dr. Marsden in the chair. The time of adjournment having arrived, the Association adjourned till half-past two o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

When half-past two o'clock arrived, the attendance being too small to discuss the bill, Dr. De Donald read a paper on the extinction of Syphilis.

He stated that it was one which a few years previously he had read in Paris, and his object was to explain how the disease might be eradicated, and to