

ized to grant the same, or of having been examined in respect to his professional capacity by judges to be appointed by the Governor-in-Council.

Next came the Act of 1856, promoted by the Medical Society of Nova Scotia. It provided for the registration of qualifications in the office of the Provincial Secretary. In addition to being unable to recover fees for services, unregistered persons were prohibited from holding provincial medical appointments, and were also liable to a fine of £5 for practising.

The Act of 1872 conferred the privilege of self-government, as its provisions secure to representatives of the profession full control of all matters relating to medical education, registration and discipline.

The profession as a whole is not incorporated in Nova Scotia, as it is in Ontario. The Act makes provision for a body corporate, called the "Provincial Medical Board," consisting of thirteen qualified medical practitioners, of not less than seven years' standing—seven to be appointed by the Governor-in-Council for life, and six to be elected triennially by the Medical Society of Nova Scotia. No other provision is made for collegiate representation, and there is no annual tax as in other provinces, the revenue being obtained wholly from examination and registration fees.

Until quite recently the requirements for registration differed in one important respect from those in other provinces, inasmuch as submission to a professional examination was not required from holders of diplomas from reputable schools, obtained after a sufficient course of study. Instead of examination the board insisted upon a rigid compliance with all its regulations relating to the preliminary examinations, period of study, and course of study—tests which effectually excluded applicants from schools of doubtful repute. This policy enabled the board, while maintaining the status of the profession, to keep an "open door" for licentiates from other provinces—a courtesy which so far has met with no reciprocal recognition. At the same time honest men from schools of good repute were spared "vexatious penalties of mind and body."

The principle of state examination was adopted a few years ago, not through conviction of its merits or necessity as a test of professional fitness, but from a desire to co-operate with other provinces in a general scheme of reciprocity. For the past three years an examination in the practical subjects has been demanded from all applicants for license, and the day is probably not far distant when the policy of the board, in this