

doubtful that it was all that was necessary at that time. It is certain that it does not suit the requirements of to-day.

We are sorry to say we believe it has been as much the fault of our medical men as of the government that we have not had a good Medical Registration Act in Nova Scotia. That the want of proper legislation on this subject should exist, hardly reflects credit upon the medical men who have been in our parliament, especially as we have had some medical representatives who have wielded a large amount of political influence, and who, we have no doubt, had they desired to do so, might have initiated a reform. At the present time, when the medical men in the Province are beginning to form local associations to promote the interests of the profession, this subject must soon receive some of the attention it deserves.

We earnestly call upon the different medical societies throughout the country to give the subject of Medical Registration their careful consideration; and we have no doubt, if our medical men make a united effort, they will be able to have an act passed which will give us well educated practitioners of medicine, by inducing our medical students to give a longer time to the study of their profession, and which will make the public certain that all our M. D's. are *Doctors*.

THE NOVA SCOTIA MEDICAL SOCIETY.

The benefits arising from well-conducted Medical Societies cannot be over-estimated, they are at once the means of bringing members of our profession into intimate relationship with each other, and imparting an immense amount of valuable practical information not obtainable in any other way.

In Great Britain, France, Germany and the United States, these Societies may be found by the score. In the latter country every city, county and state has its Medical Society, each working steadily for the one great end, the advancement of our noble profession. In this Province, for some years past, the Nova Scotia Medical Society has been in operation, and has accomplished a certain amount of good; but owing to its peculiar constitution, and to its always meeting in Halifax, it has been looked

upon by the profession throughout the Province as almost entirely a local society.

During the summer of 1867, when the formation of a Dominion Medical Association was first mooted, the profession throughout the Province was invited by circular to meet in Halifax, for the purpose of considering the best means for making the Society what it ought to be, the representative of the profession of Nova Scotia. At this meeting it was recommended that the Society should be constituted of delegates from Societies to be formed in each county, and where Societies could not be formed, of members of the profession who might choose to attend. It was also recommended that there should be but one regular meeting in each year, to be held in some one of the principal towns of the Province. In this way, and by placing the affairs of the Society more under the control of the profession generally, it was hoped by the promoters of the scheme that physicians throughout the Province might be induced to take a deeper interest in the welfare of the profession and prosperity of the Society.

The recommendations, to a certain extent, have already been carried out, local societies have been formed in the counties of Lunenburg, Pictou, Halifax and Yarmouth. We see no reason why others should not be formed in the counties of Colchester, Cumberland, Kings and Hants, if but a few active members of the profession in these counties would take the matter in hand.

The first annual meeting of the Society, for the purpose of carrying out the above mentioned recommendations, was held in the town of Pictou on the 21st July. We regret that the attendance was so small, and that so few of the substantial men of the profession were present.

We have always imagined that the object of a Medical Society was the advancement of the interests of the profession; but the majority of the members present seem to have taken an opposite view of matters, their whole energies being used for the purpose of blocking the way of medical improvement.

A worthy member considered it his duty to introduce the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas, a periodical called the Provincial Medical Journal has been published in Halifax, and whereas, paragraphs have appeared in various newspapers of Halifax stating that it was published under the auspices of the Nova Scotia Medical Society,

Resolved, That this Society totally ignores all knowledge of, or connection with, the Provincial Medical Journal.

Had such a resolution emanated from a respectable body of practitioners, or had it been carried in a fair straight-forward way, or had there been a syllable of truth in the latter part