

Act, and the joint product of the Medical Board and the Medical Institutions of this Province, was, as you know, further amended, and passed almost exactly in its present form in October, 1879; and its by-laws were sanctioned by His Honor the Lieut.-Governor on the 3rd Sept., 1880. It has been, therefore, the humble but important function of the retiring board during its three years of office to administer the affairs of the college in accordance with "statutes, rules and regulations," which had been just completed and transmitted to it by its predecessors.

One of the first acts of the Board at its first semi-annual meeting was to appoint an officer whose special duty it is to institute legal proceedings against persons infringing the provisions of the Medical Act, and, as will presently appear from the report of that officer, a *systematic* effort has been maintained during the past three years, for the first time in the history of the College, to prosecute persons practicing the medical art without legal qualifications in the Province of Quebec. As a summary of that report I may here state that 49 suits were instituted by the agent of the College; 35 of which were successful, and 9 were lost through want of evidence; 2 through exception to the form; 1 through the plaintiff's lawyer failing to appear in court; and 2 because the defendant possessed the Governor's license, and the court was of the opinion that that was a Royal privilege and exempted him from the operation of the Medical Act.

When the many difficulties which attend the establishing of criminality in courts of justice—I was going to say in a legal way, when these many difficulties, some of them legal, some of them social, and, I regret to say, some of them of our own making—are borne in mind, it will be admitted that something has been done; at least a good beginning has been made to protect the members of the College in the enjoyment of their professional rights. And I have the hope that with the experience of the present system during the last three years to serve as a guide, this department of the College work will be yet more satisfactorily carried on during the coming triennial period. Mr. Lamirande has collected \$367 for registrations, \$260 for licenses, and \$3,092 for annual subscription—making a sum of \$3,719.

From the reports of the Matriculation Examiners it appears that 142 candidates have been admitted to the study of medicine during the last three years.

The efficiency with which this important function of the College is performed is proved by the considerable number of young men who are remanded to their studies at the preliminary examinations—and there is little doubt that under the present system the educational qualifications of persons entering upon the study of medicine must gradually attain a higher general average than under the old system.

One hundred and fifty-three (153) licenses to practice in the Province have been issued during the triennial period now under review. One hundred and forty-four (144) of these were given to graduates of the Medical Institutions of this Province; two to licentiates of Ontario; two to graduates from Great Britain; one under clause 24 of the Medical Act to a practitioner over thirty years practice in the Province; and four to gentlemen presenting themselves before the Board for examination. Two candidates for the license were referred to their studies.

A medical tariff adopted by the College, after due consideration, on Sept., 1880, was approved by the Lieut.-Governor in Council on May, 1881; but was repealed by the Provincial Legislature early in 1882, owing to the opposition made to it in some districts by the electors, on the ground that the tariff was too high. The governors resident in the cities of Quebec and Montreal made a vigorous effort to have the Medical Act amended by the insertion of a clause giving power to the members of the College to form distinct associations, which should have the right to make a tariff for their respective districts, subject to approval by the Provincial Medical Board; but this also failed. The Act, however, remains unchanged, and the College has the right to make a tariff subject to approval by the Lieut.-Governor-in-Council.

It is quite possible that hereafter a tariff which shall embrace only a few of the ordinary items, such as visits, consultations, certificates, mileage, etc., may be prepared that shall be acceptable to the Lieut.-Governor-in-Council—*i.e.*, the ministry of the day; but may I be permitted to remind my colleagues that while a tariff under such sanction has important uses, the chief of which is to protect alike the interests of the public and of their servants—the physicians—the profession must after all make its own rate of charges; and there must be no undermining of a brother's reputation, no underselling to attract patients, no contracts for wholesale attendance and cheap medicine; such