

lamentably wanting in all the requisites to render it worthy of consideration," they proclaim it to be an "insult to the graduates of British Universities and licentiates of British Colleges of Surgeons;" they unfurl the banner of suspicion, jealousy and hatred against their confreres of French Canadian origin; and finally, they throw a lance against all those who having already successfully established rival Medical Schools to that with which they happen to be themselves connected, or who may hereafter have energy to do the same thing, shall presume to feel an interest in the course of education required for initiation into the Medical Profession. Verily the modesty of these gentlemen is killing!

But who are the individuals, who have dared to promulgate "a scheme by which the interests of the Profession will be controlled by a few parties to whose caprice the Profession generally must submit?" I have reason to know that some of the most influential, liberal, and deservedly respected (both social and professionally) members of the Profession at Quebec, are to be found among the culprits; all belonging to the Incorporated School of Medicine; all of them entrusted with the charge of the Eleemosynary Institutions; some of them having charge of the Lunatic Asylum of this section of the Province; all of them members of the Medical Board for the District of Quebec; and two of them connected by family ties with one of the Editors above alluded to and one of his College confreres—so much for the promoters of the project.

Allow me now to point out to your readers the grounds upon which these virulent denunciations have been based. They will then be in a position to judge how far the conductors of that journal are disposed "to treat every subject of medical polity with a single eye to the general good of the profession, and not of particular parties in it," or how far "the true interests of the profession" are likely to be subserved while these gentlemen continue to brandish a lighted torch of jealousy and hatred among those members of the profession who do not happen to be connected with their institution, or to take part in the political sentiments or their ideas of medical reform—They protest against—

1. The mode of constituting the Corporation.
2. The admission of Fellows and Members by election.
3. The subjecting of such *Members* as possess licenses of not less than 7 years and under 15 years to examination for the Fellowship.
4. The curriculum enjoined in the 9th suggestion as necessary for obtaining license to practice and consequently for Membership.

Now, while they admit "that every Corporation must have a beginning, and that it is a matter of little consequence who and what they are who are in the outset to constitute that Corporation," they in the next breath declare that an invidious distinction is drawn in selecting as the petitioners to Parliament and the subsequent body corporate all those gentlemen, without reference to religion, nation, party or politics, who have been in practice at least 20 years. Could a more satisfactory plan have been adopted, I would ask, to do away entirely with party spirit or jealousy?—to prevent him who was not a member of one of the Societies, or of one of the Medical Schools in this section of the Province, from

feeling that his neighbour, differently circumstanced, was made to assume a position different to his own? But further, what was the result of adopting a different mode in the case of the bill brought forward during the last session by the Hon. Mr. Sherwood for Canada West, and according to which the members of the Toronto Medico-Chirurgical Society were to have formed the body corporate? Why, the bill was threatened with such opposition at its second reading that Mr. S. very wisely withdrew it, that it might be made to assume a different shape. Let those gentlemen learn, too, that the present plan, when proposed to that hon. gentleman, met with his approbation.

The Editors of the British American Journal complain of Members and Fellows being admitted by election; of there being two classes at all, seeing that it is proposed by our friends at Toronto to open wide their doors to "all who are already duly licensed, and who may be desirous or willing to join," and that they shall become members. Now this year's scheme of our Toronto friends differs from that of last year, in recognizing but one class—*Members*; and how do they constitute their governing body? By the ELECTION of 36 members, who shall be styled "The Council of the College," and who shall have the power of making and altering bye laws—(a rather more restrictive plan than that of this section of the Province yet!) But surely these gentlemen are not so ignorant as not to be aware that there is no Corporation existing in which the right of exercising his own discretion is not possessed by every member of that body to sanction or veto the admission of a proposed new member. How were they admitted into any of the bodies of which they are members? By right? What is the recorded answer of Dr. Macmichael, when asked by the select committee of the House of Commons, in March, 1834, whether any change could be adopted to facilitate the admission of Fellows into the Royal College of Physicians of London?—"It is my opinion," says he, "that the admission into the Fellowship should be entirely in the breast of the *Fellows*, and be unfettered completely." Upon the point whether the existing Fellows would or would not exercise their vote in a manner always agreeable to the Editors of the British American Journal and their friends, it is not for me to say. I presume they would use their privilege honestly; and be much disposed to remind their calumniators of the motto of the order of the Garter—"Honi soit qui mal y pense."

With regard to the third exception, if those gentlemen will turn to the evidence just alluded to before the select Committee of the House of Commons in 1834—they will find that while examination is held to be a very unsatisfactory and uncertain means of knowing the qualification of the candidate, every one of the witnesses recommended a certain period of probation to be passed after a licentiate had commenced practice, before he should be eligible for fellowship; this varied from 5 to 10 years.

As to the fourth objection; if these gentlemen will publish in their next number the curriculum required by the London College of Surgeons, that of Dublin and Edinburgh, the Universities of London, Edinburgh, and Paris and if at these Universities and Colleges respectively more than one course of lectures on each branch be not