

Canada Medical Journal.

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THE ONTARIO MEDICAL BILL.

The *Dominion Medical Journal* in an article published in its December number, advocates the establishment of a central medical board of examiners. Laying aside every other consideration we regard this bill as unjust, and interfering with the vested rights of old and well established institutions. These institutions could have no reasonable ground of complaint, if an act were passed giving the General Council of Medical Education powers of supervision. The right of being present at the examinations is already accorded by McGill University, if not by other institutions, to parties interested in those exercises. These examinations are not with us conducted in a corner, and the University has every reasonable ground for opposing the degradation of its status. There can be little doubt that depriving the teaching bodies of examining their students is wrong in principle, and will lead to laxity, if not the admission into the ranks of the profession of a number of indifferently educated men.

With all due deference to the five members of the committee who "belong to no clique, but are simply gentlemen in country practice in the Province of Ontario," we hold that even they although earnest and good men, are not as capable of searching out the knowledge or deficiency of a candidate for medical honours, as any five men taken from the teaching body of the profession. They may think so of themselves, for it is a characteristic of most men to have an unbounded good opinion of their own abilities. The Local Parliament in Ontario have no power to legislate in any way against the vested rights of the Colleges and Universities in Great Britain. These vested rights are secured to them by the amended imperial medical act of last session, so that any bill passed by the Local Legislature of Ontario interfering with that Act, will have to be reserved for Her Majesty's sanction before it becomes law.

In alluding to an article which appeared in the November number of this journal, in which we stated that the mass of the profession in Ontario is opposed to the formation of a central medical board of examiners,