

another point upon which I would touch. I allude to the adoption of trimestrial examinations in all schools of medicine. My colleagues and myself can testify to the immense amount of labour which this entails on the professors, but we can also testify to the immense advantages it affords the students—and herein we are amply repaid. These examinations are conducted by a committee of the Faculty, each professor examining on his own branch in the presence of his colleagues. At Laval there are three terms in each year; consequently the student undergoes twelve of these almost public examinations in the course of his four years' study. The advantages to be gained by the students are, first, and perhaps above all, a strong inducement to him to commence his studies in earnest the very day he enters college; secondly, by these examinations he discovers whether his lectures or private reading have been profitable to him or not; and lastly, he learns to appreciate and take in the full scope of his professional questions, and, by frequent habit, he obtains a facility of answering. The quarterly examinations above alluded to are of course an addition to the usual weekly examination in each class. The course of study is I see to extend over a period of four years. This is not too long, but perhaps it would be well to specify distinctly in the bill that no degree *ad practicandum* could be conferred before the full expiration of his term.

It has been suggested by the Association of Medical Superintendents of American Institutions for the Insane, that in every school of medicine, conferring degrees, a course of lectures should be given on insanity and medical jurisprudence as connected with disorders of the mind. As most of the cases of insanity in their earlier stages come under the care of the ordinary physician, this is, perhaps a subject which may advantageously occupy the attention of the different collegiate councils of this Dominion.

Last year Dr. Parker directed the attention of this Association, in very earnest language, to the necessity of establishing institutions for the treatment of inebriates. It is very much to be regretted that up to the present moment the Government of this Dominion has taken no action in this most important matter. It is true that Dr. Wakeham, with that enterprise and intelligence which have always characterised him, did some years ago, at his own risk and cost, open an institution in the neighborhood of Quebec, for the purpose alluded to, and has maintained it ever since upon a most respectable footing, though I fear at a considerable pecuniary loss. This he has borne, in the hope, hitherto a vain one, that Government would ere this have come to his assistance. It is also true that an Act was passed by the Local Legislature in 1860, authorizing the interdiction of inebriates, so that now these persons may be controlled and sent to such institutions for treatment so far so good. But still this does not exonerate the General Government from the great responsibility which lies upon it in this matter. I agree entirely with your late President that all governments are as much morally bound to make provision for the treatment of this class of sufferers as they are to find hos-

pital accommodation for the treatment of other forms of disease, whether of the mind or body. It will no doubt have been seen by many of you that Drs. Parrish and Dodge, Superintendents of the Sanitariums of Binghamton and Media, have been formally invited to appear before the British Parliament to give a detailed history of Inebriate Asylums in the United States, the system of treatment adopted in them, and its success. This is a most praiseworthy step on the part of Great Britain, and will be followed no doubt by other governments, our own, may it be hoped, included.

There is yet another subject to which this Association might call the immediate attention of the Government.

As the law now exists no insane person, however violent (*being also an epileptic*.) can be admitted into the public asylums of the country. The consequence is our gaols constantly contain several of these doubly afflicted persons, who are exposed to the jeers and gibes of those around them, inducing, no doubt very frequently, epileptic paroxysms, which, under more favourable circumstances, might have been avoided. Why an insane person, because he is also an epileptic, should be less dangerous to himself or others, or requires less the protection of Government for the same reason, I am at a loss to understand. On the contrary, being doubly afflicted, he should be a special object of sympathy, care, and protection. I believe this matter has only to be brought under the notice of the Government to be at once remedied. There are some other points upon which I might well, as for example the better regulating of the duties of chemists and druggists in large cities, medical fees in courts of justice and at coroners, inquests, &c., but as there is a good deal of work before the Association, and but little time to do it in, I prefer waiving these, so that we may proceed at once to the discussion of the bill.

The address was ordered to be printed in the transactions of the Society.

Dr. Marsden, Quebec, stated that in consequence of many members not paying their subscriptions and from the paucity of their numbers, the Society had so far been unable to publish several very valuable papers, which had been read before them. They were extremely valuable, and to obtain them the profession would pay any price. Dr. Howard's paper, read at Toronto three years before, was full of statistics of priceless value—but practically they were a dead letter—for the Association was unable to publish them. During the course of the meeting he would give notice of a motion upon this subject.

Upon motion of Dr. R. Palmer Howard, the following nominating Committee were appointed:

Dr. HAMILTON, of Nova Scotia, Dr. Botsford and Dr. Freeman, of New Brunswick; Dr. Hamilton, of Ontario; Dr. Marsden, Dr. Tessier, Dr. Peltier, Dr. Dugenis, Dr. Lafleur, Dr. F. W. Campbell, Dr. Beaubien, Dr. Scott and Dr. Hingston, of the Province of Quebec.

Dr. R. PALMER HOWARD, chairman of the Bill Committee, stated that as the usual routine business had been proceeded with, he considered that the time