

THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS OF
ONTARIO.

The *Canada Lancet*, for April, contains an article in which, among other matter, the editor recommends the council to remit all examination of students who go abroad and take out any of the diplomas from the colleges of the mother country. We quite agree with the editor of the *Lancet* in the main features of his argument, but it appears to us that he is placing the diplomas of our own colleges and universities at a very great disadvantage.

We hold that Medicine and Surgery are as well administered in Canada as in any country in the world. And we believe that medical studies are as faithfully pursued and taught with us as abroad. It is well known that the brightest intellects amongst us have not all been able to avail themselves of the advantages held out by the larger field for observation in the hospitals and schools of Europe. We opposed the central examining system in Ontario at the time that the Bill was submitted to the Local Legislature, because we regarded it as an injustice to the schools already in existence. We would, however, advocate a general Bill for the Dominion, but we fear that such an Act is not attainable under existing circumstances.

Medical schools have, within the last few years, increased rapidly in Canada, and each one is affiliated with some University holding a Royal charter; so that, as far as the Province of Quebec is concerned, we have, at present, five independent licensing bodies. This is to be regretted, as it will tend to induce laxity in examination, and, by opening the door to incompetent men, will thereby lower the standard of medical education. What we really require is a Central Board of Examiners, before whom all comers should have to submit to examination prior to registration.

The *Canada Lancet* observes: "It is certainly most illiberal to force these young men who have a status equal, if not superior, to that of many of their examiners, to pass through the ordeal of another examination, with the attendant loss of time, and further drain upon their already depleted purses." In another portion of the article the editor says: "Surely the Council should be satisfied with the professional status of Canadian graduates who have received the additional degree of M.R.C.S., or L.R.C.P., in London or Edinburgh. We maintain that every encouragement and consideration should be shown to those graduates who have the ambition, the energy and the determination to qualify themselves so thoroughly for the practice of their profession."

It will be observed this has reference to men taking out the

degrees of London or Edinburgh. We suppose the editor of the *Canada Lancet* includes all the licensing bodies in Great Britain, though he does not so state. This being admitted as an abstract principle, then would it be better for us to close our schools and cease medical education entirely: obliging all medical students to proceed to those halls of high learning in the mother country, where they can obtain, at a trifling increase of outlay, advantages which we are unable to offer. The whole article in the *Canada Lancet* grates unpleasantly. We may be, in the opinion of the editor of the *Canada Lancet*, asses and ignoramuses, we may be far behind our fellow-men, we may have done very little for science generally, nevertheless we maintain that the larger number of our Canadian graduates will compare favorably with an equal number of those hailing from British colleges, judging from the specimens we have come in contact with, excepting always leaders in medical science and literature, some few of whom it has been our good fortune to meet.

It is unnecessary to grind all this into our ears, however true it may be. And in our opinion it ill-becomes a Canadian journalist to befoul and belittle the institutions of his own country. 'Tis passing strange, on turning to the title page of the *Canada Lancet*, the reader will there behold, "Edited by J. Fulton, M.D., M.R.C.S., England, L.R.C.P., London."

Medical News.

RULES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF PUBLIC VACCINATORS.

We publish the following rules, which were adopted by the Board of Health of St. John, N. B., during the recent epidemic of small-pox which afflicted that city:

1. That each Vaccinator shall confine himself to his respective District.
2. That he shall keep a book and insert, under its proper heading, the date of vaccination—whether primary or secondary—and the name, age, and sex of each person vaccinated, and the result of the vaccination.
3. That he shall visit every house and room in his district, examine the arms of each and every person, and vaccinate all persons who have not been vaccinated, except those who have had small-pox; re-vaccinate all persons who have not been vaccin-