HALE COLUMBIA
Columbia, Pa. Medical Record, 1893-1905

Joseph W. Lahr M. D.
Medical Education in the 1800s

This lithograph by J. A. Wales appeared in the magazine “Puck” published April 14, 1880, and was an adept caricature of the diploma mill fraud occurring in Philadelphia at that time. It is entitled “The Great Combination Diploma Mill” and Professor “Grind-em-out” is driving the works. Specifically mentioned in the upper right corner are the American University of Philadelphia and Eclectic Medical College, together with the Philadelphia University of Medicine & Surgery and Penn Medical University or College. Courses offered are a ten minute therapeutics course for $5.00, five minutes of chemistry for $2.50, and thirty seconds of surgery for twenty-five cents.

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