

Chicago July 11th 1869

C. C. Tobie M. D. Dear Sir,

Your letter in relation to a degree of M. D.
for your son C. A. Tobie was duly received.

We could not; of course, confer on him the ordinary degree of Doctor of Medicine without his ever having attended our College. That would be regarded as simply "selling a diploma" for a sum of money; which is regarded by the Profession generally as a disgrace alike to the College giving it and the man receiving it.

The only way a Diploma could be conferred on him without his attending the college and submitting to an examination, would be to vote him an "Honorary Degree". (It was the "Honorary Degree" that was given by The Rush Medical College to Dr. Knosell.)

copy of answer
But to confer the "Honorary" title on men com-
paratively young, and without more than
the ordinary reputation for scientific and
Professional acquirements, is a perversion of
it from its proper purpose. I could not
therefore, give any encouragement to the prop-
osition to have our College give your son
a Diploma on any other conditions than that
he come and attend one course of lectures and
have his examination. If he cannot afford to
attend the whole length of the term he could
come as early as the first of January, and remain
until the close and pass his examination.
It would be better for him; very much better than to have
a Diploma, which his professional neighbors
would know was obtained out of the ordinary course.
Yours &c. W. S. Davis