

with these "Samaritans," and that we should endeavour by all means to avoid being brought into juxta position with them.

There is one other point connected with our profession which should be made the subject of legislative enactment, and on which we should get up a petition to Parliament, I mean the payment of medical witnesses in criminal prosecutions. This would scarcely come within the province of a Medical Bill, but it is one of those things which for the good of our profession we should ever bear in mind, and not rest satisfied till it is remedied. To place a medical man in the witness box and compel him to give an opinion which his medical knowledge alone enables him to give is certainly like robbing a merchant of his stock in trade or capital without any remuneration. But this is exactly our case. How often does it happen that some of us are compelled to attend court from day to day, perhaps for weeks, in order to give evidence, without any remuneration. This is certainly a great injustice and one which will never be remedied till such time as we take a stand against it. It seems to me that the matter should be taken cognizance of by the Medical Association of Canada, but till that is done we should refuse to give such evidence till we are promised remuneration adequate to our trouble and responsibility in the circumstances. I am aware that such a course would lay us under the censure of the judge, and perhaps render us liable to imprisonment for contempt of court, but unless some one takes the position I fear we will get no redress. Who then will be the first martyr for the good of the profession? It has, however, been given on good legal authority that a subpoena does not require a statement of opinion, but only of facts as an ordinary witness—unless paid for. Let us then take our stand on this.

While on the subject of medical legislation, let me say that it is the duty of members of Parliament to send their constituents copies of all Bills bearing on any of them individually, or as members of any body or association, and that medical men are certainly entitled to this consideration in all cases affecting them. Yet how few among us were put in possession of copies of the late Medical Act, or of the Registration Act, by our local member, or if put in possession of them at all, not till too late to suggest any alterations or amendments. This we should demand as a right, and I think it would be well that this Society should pass a resolution, a copy of which should be sent to our members of Parliament, asking that copies of all Bills affecting the profession in any way should be sent to them individually, or at all events to the officials of our society. Each member of Parliament is, I believe, furnished with a sufficient number of copies for this purpose. It was my intention before I began