

over 2,300 medical men, "children" and "feeble-minded" though they be? Has this same gentleman, whom the Council has made their king, sixteen times the education, sixteen times the intelligence, sixteen times the administrative ability of one of the common men of our calling, that he must be clad with sixteen times the power, and when exalted and lifted up must insult men who are, at least, his peers, by sneeringly referring to them as "children" and "feeble-minded." There is evidently a Pharaoh on the throne who knows not Joseph. But these "children" and "feeble-minded" will yet be free and self-governed. To have a profession purely self-governed, a Council strictly elective has been the main object of our struggle. The Council and their defence journal have time and again asserted our aim and object to be the destruction of the Council. I deny this. I challenge the production of one sentence or one word of the Defence Association pointing in this direction. On the contrary, we have sought and still seek the consolidation of the Council upon a just and equitable foundation. Our aim is and has been to make it strong in the confidence—affection, if you will—of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, and this can only be accomplished by making it representative. The mere addition of five members to the representative section of the Council in no way alters the situation. So long as fifteen members remain who are irresponsible, the profession cannot retire from hostilities until the boon of self-government is secured.

In all these invasions of the rights and liberties of the profession the twelve representative members have been in the van of the battle. They joined with their irresponsible comrades in securing, clandestinely, as I have shown in a former letter, the most arbitrary legislation ever forced upon a learned profession in this province.

They have most vigorously defended the obnoxious legislation of 1891, and they have done so *unanimously*, for the present president, Dr. Campbell, said: "So far the law is sustained *unanimously* by the territorial representatives." Whilst President Williams, in his official speech, upheld the law, and denounced the recalcitrant members of the profession as dishonest men; the other eleven representative members sat around like so many Shylocks, with eyes turned zenithward, ever and anon exclaiming: "A Daniel come to judgment!" It is in the air, it comes from almost every division, that these gentlemen, when now necessitated to face an approaching election are on the stool of repentance. They are meekly confessing their sins, and saying: "We are the sons of Adam, and no doubt have erred, but give us your votes once more—give us place and power once more, and we will ever remain your humble and obedient servants." I appeal to my fellow practitioners to weigh well the situation, and withhold the sceptre from the hands of men who have been foremost in trampling under foot the rights and liberties of the profession. In my next I shall consider the so-called vested rights in virtue of which the irresponsible section of the Council claims representation.

Yours, etc.,

J. W. McLAUGHLIN.

Bowmanville, May 5th, 1894.

THE PROFESSIONAL TAX.

EDITOR DOMINION MEDICAL MONTHLY:

SIR,—Permit me to say a few words through the columns of your valuable journal concerning the annual tax of the Council. Never before in our history has there been so much interest manifested by the profession in matters pertaining to medical legislation as at present. Let us hope that the outcome