

ment. If he is anything, he is a most decidedly practical man. That he is practical needs no better evidence than the fact that he has proved himself to be a successful practitioner.

"Oh, wad some power the giftie gie us,
To see oursels as ithers see us,
It wad frae mony a blunder free us,
And foolish notion!"

I commend the above suggestive lines of Scotland's noblest bard to the earnest consideration of the *Lancet*, with the strongest assurance that the steady adoption of the principle so quaintly, but beautifully, expressed, would prove to him and to all of us a valuable guide to future action.

What a pity that men of culture should be so absorbed in self, that they cannot see anything in their neighbours but inaptitude and imperfection, while they are continually behaving in a way which indicates that their own impression is that, without their individuality the world would be a vast howling wilderness! The Editor of the *Lancet*, as often as opportunity offers, and somewhat oftener, while he is unscrupulous upon some points of medical ethics himself, does not hesitate to hold up to public derision, and scandalize every professional brother who crosses his path, even though it be only in honourable rivalry. This may be pardonable in the political arena, or among those who are recognised as pot-house politicians, but it is decidedly beneath the dignity of a member of the noble profession to which we belong, and I would fain hope there are few of us who would descend to the methods systematically adopted by the *Lancet*, in order to bring discredit upon our professional brethren.

Yours very truly,

JUNIUS.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN JOURNAL OF MEDICAL SCIENCE.

SIR,—Since the editorial concerning consultation with Homœopaths appeared in your columns, and since the *Lancet* took up the gauntlet in behalf of the Homœopaths, no less than three different occasions have been brought to my notice, upon which the prominent medical man of this city, mentioned by you, has met homœopathic physicians in consultation. Upon each of these three occasions he was called upon to sew up ruptured perinæa

(a fact which speaks highly of the homœopathic obstetric procedure.) Formerly I had been unwilling to believe it possible that such rumours could actually be true, but the opinion lately expressed in the recent editorial of the *Lancet* upon this subject, renders it too probable that the stories are at least founded on fact. And the sorrowful spectacle is presented to us of a teacher, an aspirant to surgical fame and one who seeks to be a leader of medical thought in this province, openly casting aside the wise restraints imposed upon us by our code of medical ethics and endeavouring to fortify his action by such specious and flimsy arguments as the following: That he meets these dogmatists for diagnostic purposes only—no question of treatment having arisen—for surgical purposes only—in which case he did not meet the homœopath, but treated the case surgically, the homœopathic treatment proceeding concurrently with the surgical attendance; and lastly (the sop to the general profession) that his desire and aim is to crush out homœopathy from our midst. Are the homœopaths whom he so suavely and considerately meets in consultation aware of the sinister intentions concealed beneath the courteous exterior of their surgical consultant? Or has he other smooth arguments to pacify the feelings of resentment that may be stirred in their homœopathic breasts? Or perhaps, the homœopaths take a more *practical* view of the question, (for their surgeon is a *practical* man or he is nothing) and look upon the meeting in the light of a business transaction. Having found a man of convenient morality, who is willing to perform services, which they are themselves unable or unwilling to perform, they agree to accept such service for a consideration.

I am truly sorry for the editor of the *Lancet*, for he is doomed to disappointment; ambitious of the high reputation of a surgeon, he will not find the experience gathered in the practice of his homœopathic friends sufficient to compensate for that which he will lose by such association, and he will realise too late, that the fame upon which he had set his heart has passed beyond his grasp.

NOTANDI SUNT TIBI MORES.