

body corporate in the community (I mean the Medical Fraternity of Ontario,) look rather to pecuniary advancement than to the encouragement of the philosophical portion of our position let us throw a sop to Cerberus and proceed for money, and if by making money we can use it for higher purposes in our profession, well and good.

Why not initiate an "Ontario Medical Association?" The reasons for it are fourfold; 1st. To protect ourselves; 2nd. To protect the public; 3rd. To elevate our profession to such a pitch that the philosopher, not the fool of the family should be considered the fit one for our profession by the general public. 4th. To make money. There is not the slightest doubt that had legislation initiated the appointment of such a scheme, modelled on the British Medical Association at home, many of the troubles incident to our College would have been avoided; but at the same time when the late Dr. Parker's Bill became law it was only the precursor that a desire existed in the profession for reform as to present legislation. Dr. Parker's Bill was a step in the right direction, so far as my first corollary is concerned, and each succeeding Act has become more favourable to our interests. True there may be objections to some of the details, but if we were "organized" we would be able to bring to bear such pressure on the Legislature as would make it impossible to refuse us protection. Supposing, therefore, that a scheme should be initiated similar to the British Medical Association, but with this very important addition, viz., that to it should be added in its formation some such method as that which exists we will say among the Engineers on this continent, viz., a mutual provident society; that on the death of a member of our Association each and every one of the members pay a certain sum to the heirs of the deceased member.

To protect the public! In this case I think the public up to this time have been so well protected that the great mass of them look upon us as their natural enemies rather than as their protectors. Of the masses we may say as was said of Cassio, "Cassio I love thee, but never more be officer of mine!"

If there is not an innate desire in the masses to commit crimes that humanity loathes at, then we as a profession should not be disgusted and horrified at the advertisements we see in the daily press.

Our duty is not only to protect the public, but also to guard carefully the interest of this *ante-natal* public.

With properly organized machinery brought to bear on our legislations, the criminal law would be so changed that the regular men would not only drive the scum to their proper *habitat*, viz., a too intimate acquaintance with *Cannabis*, or a prolonged residence in *hospitio Regina*.

To make our profession one that the family mediocrity be not considered as sufficiently capable. The rewards in our profession are few and far between, and are, I regret to say, in the hands of the member where the tempting bait lies, the consequence being that men are tempted to prostitute medicine for politics, and hence to make money. An association might be formed such as I think of, that would prevent that at least.

And lastly to make money. The Association would agree on a Tariff, not for sections or localities, but for the whole Province. This is the only way to settle all difficulties. And as the farmer becomes richer so he buys a pianoforte for his daughter, so when the country practitioner rises in the social scale by the accumulation of wealth, we may be able to see the microscope as the necessary object, rather than the bottles that too frequently cumber the studio of the medical man.

I am afraid that this communication may be too long for your columns. If the little skiff I have floated off be deemed worthy of discussion in other and abler hands I know a prouder vessel will be launched.

Yours truly,

ALPHA.

### Reports of Societies.

#### MEETING OF THE MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF NORFOLK.

A meeting of the Medical practitioners of the County of Norfolk having been called by Dr. Alfred Bowlby, the last Vice-President of the late Gore and Thames Association, (in the absence of the President, Dr. Clarke, M.P.P.) there were present the following gentlemen viz: Drs. Bowlby, Bogue, Joy, Patterson, Sparrow, Hayes, &