

kind is frequent. What has happened might have been foreseen long ago, when the Bill was felt to be an embarrassing thing, but at the same time one whose claims could not be thrust aside by summary procedure. The British North America Act, in virtue of which we live and move and have our being, has been in evidence from the first. On turning to the account of the debate on the second reading, as given in the Official Report, it is seen, as might be expected, to hinge mainly on the question of infringing provincial autonomy. Any such consequence was denied by the supporters of the Bill, some of whom stated that they would not advocate Dr. Roddick's cause if they thought provincial rights in danger. Whether the Bill was unconstitutional or not is a question that appeals to parliamentary lawyers, and, as might also be expected, the discussion of unconstitutionality brought forth a conflict of opinion in the House. Whether or not a doctor, a distinguished specialist, let us suppose, who is in practice in Ottawa, can cross the river Ottawa and visit a patient in the Province of Quebec without running the risk of fine or imprisonment, prescribed by the law of the province he has invaded, is a question that appeals to common sense. To argue from a provincial point of view, and say that the only way for such a man to qualify himself for practice in a neighbouring province is by passing its medical examinations, implies a condition of thought that lags woefully behind what is felt to be a just claim of the country on those who have shown themselves efficient doctors. And, further, to say nothing of the personal annoyance and expense that such a regulation entails, there is a strong probability that in the case of a mature doctor certain requirements of a general medical examination would have passed into something like oblivion. Besides, the subjects of a provincial matriculation would have to be studied again, at a time when we may generously suppose they have faded from facts into an influence. How the provincial Legislatures will deal with Dr. Roddick's Bill remains to be seen, for they have not met since it was passed by the Dominion Parliament. It is quite likely that the argument of which we have just been speaking will be heard again. In the most ethereal play ever given to the stage, the dramatist, with a touch of sagacity, makes the leader of his band of handicraftsmen momentarily sententious, as is the way of plain every-day people: "And yet, to say the truth, reason and love keep little company together now-a-days; the more the pity