

compulsion the sooner they are out of it the better. No true son of the church will neglect the teachings of that church in matters of faith. Nevertheless as a society of men we cannot ignore the fact that marriage is a civil institution, however desirable it may be that it should be sanctioned and consecrated by a religious ceremony.

Infant Baptism is quite another thing. The church teaches that infant baptism is essential, there are however those outside the church, whose teachings they ignore, who do not believe in the necessity of infant baptism. This class throughout Canada is by no means small, and without the existence of a law compelling registration many of the children of this class do not appear at all on the register. The fact of having a registration law does not in any way interfere with the doctrines or obligations imposed by the church on the people. These are pure matters of faith and not of custom, and we cannot see that secular registration would in any way interfere with them. The Canadian Medical Association is composed of representative men of a liberal profession, most deeply interested in this subject, and we think that an earnest appeal from that body would have due weight in the councils of the Commons at Ottawa. Registration should be uniform throughout the Dominion. Furthermore from the variety of religious sects which are to be found amongst our people, no particular sect should be permitted to have anything whatever to do in carrying out a registration act. To be efficient it must be under government control.

MONTREAL PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION.

In the last number of our Journal we took occasion to notice, what we considered at the time, some ill-digested remarks of the Chairman of the Montreal Sanitary Association regarding the dirty back lanes. At a subsequent meeting the chairman is reported to have commented rather earnestly on the editorial in the Journal, saying that he