

vellous skill of the Duke of Wellington and the able generals under him, in command of the best and bravest of soldiers, he would have laid the whole of Europe helpless at his feet.

The battles at which Dr. Widmer was present were Vittoria, Busaco, Fuentes D'Onoro, Talavera and Salamanca.

Dr. Widmer practised all the branches of his profession, as well as surgery, with marked success. When he settled in Toronto he was a young man of about 33 or 34 years of age. Before long he was made a member of the Legislative Council of Upper Canada. He was also a member of the Medical Board of Upper Canada. He was present at its first meeting in 1819, and was its President from 1823 till his death thirty-five years afterwards. He was much interested in all its work, and, taking everything into consideration, was perhaps its most useful member. The sittings of this Board were always held quarterly in Toronto. The responsibility of the examination work assigned to it was very great, as for many years it was the only examining medical board in Upper Canada. A candidate, having passed his examinations before it, obtained a license to practise, signed by the Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, and after the union of Upper and Lower Canada, by the Governor-General. Medical students living and intending to practise in Upper Canada, in very early days, could not obtain a medical degree in the Province. Almost the only persons having such a degree had taken it in some one of the then very few degree-conferring universities in the United States. These gentlemen had all to undergo examinations by the Medical Board just as Canadian students did. Candidates possessing recognized British qualifications received the Governor's license on presenting these, with the required identification, to the Board.

Dr. Widmer was a splendid specimen of a medical gentleman of Toronto's early days. For many years he lived on King Street East, nearly opposite what is now Ontario Street. Widmer Lane, still open, is on the west side of the lot on which his house stood. The dwelling was a frame house, square in shape, two stories high, and white painted, and its front was flush with the street. He, after several years, built a handsome brick two-story house on the south part of his lot, about fifty feet north of Front Street, the house facing the south. This house was taken down only about two years ago, and had, after the death of the doctor, for many years presented a very shabby, neglected appearance, surrounded with unsightly buildings of one kind and another. One could hardly conceive, to look at it, that it could have been the handsome residence it was during all the years Dr. Widmer lived in it. In this house he had his office, and did a great deal of surgical and medical work of all kinds. His widespread reputa-