

fear, however, from what I hear, that it is not united, and if this is the case one section would seem to be tacitly working—perhaps indirectly, yet still working—for the removal of a colleague, while another section is asking that colleague to modify his course, so as to make it acceptable. If all would unite on this latter course I hardly think Dr. Wright could hold out. He is a gentleman, a Christian minister, and a man of rare talent, and is quite able to give such a course as would be creditable to himself and acceptable to his class. Let him put into practice some of the doctrines which I have many times heard him preach and the matter I feel can be arranged. Above all I hope no one who has received this circular will return it signed, as such a course is, I think, likely to increase the difficulties by which the Faculty are already surrounded.

Yours,

A MCGILL MEDICAL GRADUATE.

THE CANADA MEDICAL RECORD,

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MONTREAL, MARCH, 1883.

THE NEW ANATOMY ACT.

A systematic desecration of graves in country districts and an open traffic in dead bodies have caused such scandal in this city during the past winter months, and so thoroughly aroused public indignation, that the authorities have been at last compelled to take vigorous action. There is a grievance upon both sides; the public bitterly complain that the graves of their friends and relatives have been desecrated to supply subjects for the Medical Schools; on the other hand, the Medical Schools complain that they have long been defrauded of dissecting material which is lawfully theirs, and compelled to obtain it as best they could, they therefore with equal justice claim to be protected in their lawful rights. The old Anatomy Act was good enough if it had only been enforced;

but, like many other excellent Statutes in this Province, it has been allowed to become practically a dead letter. Many circumstances have combined to effect this result; the greed or apathy of officials, religious considerations, the mistaken philanthropy of tender-hearted governors and managers have all contributed to cut off the supply of material from the large public institutions which the law distinctly set apart for the use of the Medical Schools. We venture to say that if the Coroner, Inspector of Anatomy, and officials of public institutions receiving a government grant had done their duty in the past, and faithfully carried out the provisions of the Anatomy Act, abundant material would have been forthcoming, and body snatching consequently unknown. The new Act has just passed the Quebec Legislature: in our next issue we hope to give it in whole or in part.

OBITUARY.

DR. ALEXANDER H. KOLLMYER.

Many a subscriber to the RECORD will learn with deep regret that Dr. Kollmyer is dead. For twenty-five years he has been in various ways brought prominently before medical and pharmaceutical students, as grinder, lecturer and professor, and in each capacity was much beloved. Scattered all over Canada and the United States are medical men who in some way came under his tutelage, and we know that in the hearts of many he was affectionately remembered. Dr. Kollmyer was born in Montreal in 1832. He was educated at Skakles School, an institution which ever will occupy a prominent place among the early English schools of this city, as being the educational birthplace of some of our most prominent men. Mr. Skakle dying before Dr. Kollmyer's education was completed, he was transferred to the High School. In 1848 he entered the chemist's shop of Mr. Rexford, where he remained four years. In 1851 he became a medical student of McGill College. In 1855 he was appointed apothecary to the Montreal General Hospital, where he remained till he graduated in 1856. He then commenced practice in Montreal. In 1868 he was appointed lecturer on *Materia Medica*, and in 1869, lecturer on Botany in the Montreal College of Pharmacy. In 1872-3 he not only lectured on these two branches, but also in Chemistry, and by these efforts the College was maintained in active efficiency, and the druggists