

escaped his memory, or, at all events, he professed ignorance that the committee had ever refused to give information when asked for it.

4. The reasons set forth for refusing the information then sought for were just two. The committee decided not to give it because its preparation would involve great expense. Dr. McLaughlin exploded that excuse by showing that its preparation would not have involved the expenditure of one single cent beyond the cost of the sheet of paper on which it was written, and a postage stamp to carry it to its destination. Then quite another explanation was offered. The information was refused solely because the committee dared not transcend its powers. It had no authority to grant any information to a member of the Council, and so feared it might be censured, for assuming functions which belong exclusively to the Council itself! What a striking commentary on the pretty speech delivered on that occasion, and the conscientious scruples then professed, is furnished by this committee's subsequent acts! Less than three months afterwards it had risen so far superior to this shrinking timidity and ephemeral sense of official scrupulosity as to set at nought the Council's published curriculum of requirements, and to further risk its formal vote of censure by usurping, without a shred of excuse for so doing, one of the Council's most valued prerogatives—that of deciding to hold a Fall Examination. Twice now it has ventured upon this latter usurpation of function. This spring, it further distinguished itself, by issuing to the profession, for signature, a petition unauthorized by the Council, and containing matters eminently well *calculated* to still further inflame the Legislature against the medical electorate. And yet again, without waiting until the matter had even been mooted in the Council, and in flagrant disregard of, if not in contempt for, its prerogatives, and in opposition to the strongly expressed advice of every medical man in the House, this same consistent committee, whose official conscience becomes so charmingly tender on suitable occasions, ventured to direct—not the Registrar to prepare and furnish a penny folio of information asked for on behalf of the profession—but the Solicitor to prepare and furnish copies of a costly draft of an amended Medical Act for introduction in the Legislature. And it was only the determined resistance of the Legislation Committee that prevented the consummation of what would have been a fatal blunder—devised equally to the great detriment of the profession and to the advantage of the homœopaths and the schools, since these, and they alone, can benefit by whatever tends to perpetuate or intensify the hostility of late shown by the Legislature towards the medical electorate. Evidently then, on occasion, this