

effect from the present volume; old arrears will be collected at the old rate. We enclosed accounts in our last issue to, we believe, nearly all our subscribers. Will they kindly remit at once. The amount due by each is not very large, but when we say that in the aggregate, they foot up over two thousand five hundred dollars, its importance to us will, perhaps, be better understood. We have another favor to ask of our patrons. We have good reason to believe that, as a rule, our *Record* is well liked, and its monthly visits are looked forward to with pleasure. Have we not reason to think so, when the following extract from a subscriber in the Eastern Townships is, in substance, what we have very frequently written to us from every portion of the Dominion: "There is only one fault with your periodical. It is only half as large as it ought to be. It is just what a man like me wants. It is practical." Now, much as we would like to enlarge the *Record*, we cannot do it with our present subscription list, but if our circulation was doubled, then something could be done in that way. That it is quite possible for this to be accomplished, we are certain, if our subscribers would make but a little exertion on our behalf. There are but very few of them who could not induce one fellow-practitioner to take the *Record*, some could induce more; we know this to be the case, for a friend and subscriber to whom we made the suggestion, has, since the issue of the last number, sent us five new names, which he says he got with great ease. Will our subscribers take the hint, and act upon our suggestion. We believe the *Record* to be worth recommending, and feel satisfied that any subscriber willing to do so can do it with a clear conscience. Let the next month show a large increase in our subscription list.

BACK NUMBERS.

We have a few copies of each number of Volume I. still on hand. Any subscriber wishing to complete this volume, should do so at once, as our supply will soon be exhausted. Price 30 cents each copy. Copies of Volume II. can also be had, price 25 cents each copy. Single numbers of Volumes III, IV, and V, can be supplied at 20 cents. Remittances may be made in postage stamps. These rates will only hold good for the next six months, as far as volumes I and II are concerned.

THE SPECIMEN-COPY MAN.

We most heartily endorse the following editorial, from the editor of the *Detroit Medical Review*, for the current month. His experience has been a counterpart of our own. Within the past year New Brunswick has been most prolific in this demand, and we confess that we did not fully see through the swindle until somewhat recently. We were then forcibly struck with the somewhat singular fact, that the order for a specimen copy was often repeated from the *same place*, but from a different person, so far as *name* was concerned; but investigation proved that the writing was by the same hand. We will, in future, only send specimen copies when twenty cents in postage stamps is remitted. We will, however, send our present number to all those "specimen-copy men" whose orders are still on file, so that they may know that medical publishers are alive to their little game, which is now quite played out.

"With its occasional amenities the position of editor of a medical journal, like most other avocations in life, has its vexations, and among these few are more irritating than the perennial applicant for specimen copies. Very seldom does a mail reach us wanting the missive whose device is "Please send me a specimen copy of your valuable journal." Earlier in our journalistic experience we were wont to allow ourselves to be flattered by these requests, coming, as they do, from all parts of the compass, and from regions remote. We laid the flattering unction to our soul that we were becoming "extensively and favorably known" to the profession. It did not take us long however, to become convinced that we were being imposed upon, and that the specimen-copy man was a fraud of the first water. We have yet to have our heart made glad by a dollar of the specimen-copy man's money, and the conviction has become most thoroughly grounded that the individual is the meanest kind of a dead-beat, and the only thing we regret, in this connection, is our inability to communicate to every member of the genus our opinion of him."

"We suspect strongly that our contemporaries are contributing to the propagation of this nuisance from the fact that it has latterly been assuming more alarming proportions. Times are hard, but even the specimen-copy man feels his need of a journal, and with the aid of a package of postal cards (he was never known to send a postage stamp for return postage) he seeks to lay in his stock of periodicals. Unless he met with encouragement from some quarter we cannot