

existence to my knowledge since 1877, and how long before I do not know, probably since the inception of the Medical Act of 1869. The journal furnished to each member more than compensates him for the tax that is levied. Other similar professional bodies, e.g., the Law Society, impose a much heavier tax. I believe every member of the Ontario College of Pharmacy has also to contribute a certain sum of money to maintain the institution. It is in itself impossible to carry on the affairs of the Council without the "sinews of war," and one of the ways that is feasible is by imposing a tax upon every member of the College. The charge of "apparent helplessness of the Council in banishing barefaced quackery," I consider not proven, either by his accusation or the acts of the Council. I am certain, and feel sure he will admit, that it is impossible for anyone to practise for any length of time without having the qualification demanded by the Council. So far as practising medicine in Ontario without a license is concerned, the charge will not hold good. But that there are *quacks in the profession* who hold as good a license as he or I, I will not deny. Such will always be the case, no odds how strictly the law is enforced, until that happy time when man's moral nature shall have been regenerated and men shall do that which is just and right. For my part I would like to see every man's name who is proved guilty of disgraceful and grossly unprofessional conduct stricken off the register, as has been done in some instances. But I do not wish to see too much paternalism in our laws. The reformation must be effected in the members of the profession, not by Act of Parliament. I consider that during the past twenty years great advances have been made by the Council in matters medical. One of my chief fears is that the standard of admission has been placed so high that many of our brightest young men will be induced to seek their education elsewhere, and thus be lost to the country. It would indeed be a retrograde movement, and one I should very heartily regret to witness, the election of a Council that would undo and render nugatory the great advances which have been accomplished by the Medical Council during the past score of years. And, while personally it would afford me pleasure to help to elect him to an office so dis-

tinguished, I must decline giving him my support on the grounds enumerated. His company, by this I mean those who think as he does, is not in accord with my sentiment. I consider the more prudent course "to bear those ills we have than fly to others that we know not of." Believe me to be,

Yours faithfully,

JAMES NEWELL.

Watford, Ont., Sept. 11th, 1894.

A REPLY.

To the Editor of ONTARIO MEDICAL JOURNAL.

DEAR SIR,—In the September issue of the *Dominion Medical Monthly*, the Editors seem to think that I have been responsible for "certain editorial matter which recently appeared" in your JOURNAL.

It may be interesting to them to learn that I have not contributed to the editorial columns of the ONTARIO MEDICAL JOURNAL since April last. If they refer to any "editorial matter" that appeared before that time, and will specify the article, I may be able to enlighten them as to whether I had anything to do with its production.

It is unfortunate that these somewhat bumptious editors cannot find some more profitable employment than that of throwing out insinuations for which they have no foundation.

F. N. G. STARR.

Toronto, Sept. 21st, 1894.

A QUERY.

To the Editor of ONTARIO MEDICAL JOURNAL.

DEAR SIR,—The following history of a case was sent to me some time ago. The history as given is rather unique, and I thought it would be of some interest to your readers in the way of diagnosis and as to the nature of his disease.

I enclose the history as sent to me, and in his own handwriting, and I hope you will be able to give the history with all the marks of punctuation and underlining which is necessary to give the diagnostician an opportunity to form a correct opinion of his case.

HISTORY.

Fifteen months since, had for several days *depression of spirits*, then sudden attack of *weakness with palpitation*.