

But such as has been procurable has been used that the Council might be established on a firm basis, secure in the confidence and respect of the profession. Those members who have taken an active part in the battle have incurred a great amount of inconvenience, labour, and expense, and there are scores of others who have not been publicly mentioned with the cause that have given valuable aid in many ways. Of those who have been actively engaged, the able and indefatigable labours of Drs. Sangster and McLaughlin to the common cause have placed their profession under a debt of gratitude to them it can not easily repay. Their friends everywhere will be glad to know their services have been thoroughly appreciated by the electors in their own divisions, and that we are already assured of their valuable services at the next Council board.

The choice of the elective part of a Council to administer the medical Act for the next four years is now in the hands of the electorate, and there is reason to believe that at least thirteen or fourteen members will be elected, who will have no purpose to serve but that of the interests of their constituents.

Yours, etc.,

J. P. ARMOUR.

St. Catharines, Sept. 6th, 1894.

### THAT STOLEN SESSION.

Serpentine Tactics—Defiance of the Legislature—Hand-Organ Methods—Weak Mathematics—Tod and Bourinot not in it—Conspiracy against the Profession—Carrying the War into Africa.

EDITOR DOMINION MEDICAL MONTHLY:

SIR,—In compliance with a promise in my last letter, I return with only one more sample of the ex-President's Caliban offspring—the "Stolen Session."

The curious reasoning of Dr. Campbell upon this issue, his indifference as to facts, his cunningly-adroit methods of stating half-truths and suppressing whole ones, lead to the grave suspicion that the author of the speech must be an ardent admirer of him who, by similar methods, succeeded in leading astray the mother of our race. Before, however, considering these curiosities of logic and fiction, I shall, in a few sentences, endeavour to make clear the intention of the amendment of 1893. In considering this question it is important to keep in mind two facts:

1. Under the old law the Council was to be elected for a period of five years as an outside limit.

2. The elections were *invariably* held before the meetings of the Council, which were fixed for the second Tuesday of June in each year. Here are the electoral dates for nearly twenty years:

|           |             |
|-----------|-------------|
| 1875..... | June 8th.   |
| 1880..... | June 6th.   |
| 1885..... | May 26th.   |
| 1890..... | March 26th. |

The last election being held in 1890, if the Legislature intended the Council to continue in existence for the five years of the old law it would have enacted that the next election should be held at the usual time—the early months of 1895. But it was not so enacted. This could not, therefore, be the purport of the Act. If, on the other hand, the intention was to adopt the new four-year limitation, then the Act should call for the election one year earlier than usual, viz., in 1894; and this is precisely what was done. It seems to me this view is plain and simple, and must commend itself to any honest mind. When the Legislators fixed the election for 1894, one year in advance of the usual time, they thought they were dealing with honest men who would not wantonly violate the rule, established by twenty years or more of precedent, of holding