

# The Medical Chronicle.

LICET OMNIBUS, LICET NOBIS DIGNITATEM ARTIS MEDICAE TUERI.

## ARE WE TO HAVE A MEDICAL CORONER FOR MONTREAL?

Are we to have a second Coroner? would probably be a more pertinent question. Some time has now elapsed since Mr. Coursol resigned the office, and as yet, we have not heard who is destined to be his successor, or, indeed, whether he is to be succeeded by any one. We know that applications have been forwarded to Government by medical gentlemen of this city who, from their abilities, learning, and scientific acquirements, would discharge the duties of the office with honor to themselves and benefit to the community. Not a whisper has reached us, however, as to what the intentions of Government may be. Surely they cannot have come to the preposterous conclusion that the largest and most populous city in British North America, is sufficiently supplied with one Coroner. Great as our faith is in the present healthy state of morals in Montreal, we are nevertheless obliged to confess that, if the duty be done thoroughly, there are a sufficient number of mysterious deaths to amply engage the attention of two Coroners. Toronto, we all know, is a wicked place, but Toronto with a fewer number of inhabitants than Montreal has now *four* Coroners. The "ancient capital" and other places, with far inferior populations, are supplied with two. Why then should this city have but one? It is unjust to the gentleman at present holding office that all the responsibility should be placed on his shoulders. He ought, we think, to protest against the longer continuance of this state of affairs, and urgently demand the appointment of a capable colleague. And that that colleague should be a physician, will, we are certain, be admitted on all hands. The recognition of the claims of the medical man to this office has been tardily recognized, but is now becoming universal. Soon Great Britain will have none but medical Coroners; and, judging from the last two appointments at Toronto, and numerous others lately made throughout the Province, it is evident that our own Government hold healthy views on the subject. Let them, therefore, appoint immediately a gentleman to fill the place vacated by Mr. Coursol, and let the gentleman selected be a member of the medical profession. By doing this they will exhibit in a forcible manner their anxious care for the interests of the public.