

that Satan hates the clergy, and flees from holy water. Doctor Tomaso La Vusca, physician to a convent in Palermo, clearly proved that the devil dreads even unconsecrated cold water, for, in a letter to Dr. Franzolini, he states that a few years ago he suppressed an epidemic of hysterical mania in the convent, by merely threatening a prolonged cold bath to every nun who might be seized with the malady, and if this should not suffice he would apply the actual cautery behind the ear—“*Era crude inverno.*” It was very cold winter, he says, and not another attack occurred. But had the dread of cold water failed, was Dr. La Vusca such a fool as to hope to frighten the devils with fire?

THE TORONTO SCHOOL ORGAN.

It is an old and very true saying that “misery likes company,” and nowhere is it better exemplified than in the utterances of our cotemporary of this city, in its last issue, under the heading of “The Old Organ and The New.” Our cotemporary already feels uncomfortable in its role of “school organ,” and is laboring to obtain some consolation by endeavouring to place other and entirely independent journals in the same category with itself. The effort, however, to place the CANADA LANCET in the rank of school organs will fall far short of the mark, for it is too well known to the profession in the Dominion of Canada as an independent and impersonal journal to permit of such an idea being entertained for one moment. No mere school organ could ever hope to attain the circulation and influence of the CANADA LANCET to-day, among the profession in this country. The LANCET is the private property of one individual; and the only possible ground for the allegation that it is a school organ, is the circumstance that the Editor and Proprietor occupies the chair of Physiology in the Trinity Medical School. Even this fact is unknown to a great number, and never could have been gathered from the literary columns of the LANCET. This journal was projected in the interests of the general profession, and has always been conducted in a spirit of perfect independence; and whenever it is felt by the editor that his position in the school is incompatible with his independence as a public journalist, it will be time to consider the propriety of discontinuing one or other.

We do not care at present to enter into a controversy with the “school organ” in reference to our motives regarding increased territorial representation in the Medical Council of Ontario; we prefer to leave that issue to the good sense of the medical profession, and let our actions speak for themselves. There is one statement, however, in the article to which we have alluded, which is so very amusing that we cannot pass it over in silence. The organ says “there never was a body of men so much under the button-hole influence of at least one manipulator, and there is no man living who would be rash enough to guess what the curriculum might be next year if the present Council should survive the impending elections.” To call this “sarcasm” would indeed be a misnomer. This statement of our cotemporary, though intended as a hit at some one else, applies in the most effectual manner to the President of the school of which it is the recognized organ, who, for several years past has been tinkering with the curriculum and examinations every session, until not even the omniscient executive committee itself could understand the regulations. For the first time, last session, this gentleman’s manipulations failed to influence the council, and hence these lacrymose wailings.

ACQUITTAL OF EMILY H. STOWE, M. D.

Some considerable interest was excited in the trial of E. H. Stowe, M.D., of this city, charged with “having administered poisons, viz., hellebore and cantharides, and also a noxious thing, to wit, myrrh, to one Sarah Ann Lovell, with the intention of procuring a miscarriage of the said Lovell.” It was shown in evidence that the girl had gone to Dr. Stowe to obtain medicine to bring on her periods; that Dr. Stowe at first refused, but as the girl threatened to drown herself unless supplied with the medicine, Dr. Stowe yielded so far as to give her a prescription copied from Ellis’ Formulary, containing one ounce of tincture of myrrh, half an ounce of tincture of hellebore, and two drachms of tincture of cantharides, and directed her to take thirty drops three times a day in water. The girl took the prescription to Mr. Mitchell, druggist, got the medicine put up, and was seen taking it openly in the house where she was at service. This was in the month of May. In August the girl died