

course of the sewage streamlet, which cannot find safe final dilution short of 2 or 3 miles from the asylum. It once found temporary escape into the water-tanks, and a rich crop of typhoids ensued. One, at least, of the staff walked into the city when he wanted a drink of good water.

Leaving this economic abortion in its glory, let us now, gentlemen of the Ambitious City, peep up to the crest of your admired mountain, and behold there a large new asylum, perched away high up above your chimney tops, looking down disdainfully on your beautiful bay, and snapping its fingers at the bright pure water of Lake Ontario, as much as to say, "come up here if you dare!" Verily it was a grand idea, that of planting a habitation for five or six hundred people, on an eminence to which it requires three steam pumpings to force the water supply up! The men who selected that spot were worthy of eternal fame, and ten acres of leather medals. Just see what a noble fall it affords for the sewage, and what a trifle it will cost to deprive your aristocratic citizens of the fragrant odour of that crystal streamlet! Add then the extra hire dispensed among your owners of horse flesh, for double teams to haul up coal and wood and other supplies, and then hurra for economical government, and go abroad and invite the people of other towns to come and admire the house that Jack built; but do not tell them that any of the lunatics were consulted.

Is it, gentlemen, now needful, that I should adduce any further illustrations of the dear-bought fact, that our rulers who hold the purse strings, have, in their direction of large public erections, exhibited a lamentable ignorance, or a fatal disregard of the hygienic and other essential requirements of such establishments? Is it not high time that the medical profession should come to the front, and honourably proclaim its disapproval of this sort of murderous and costly quackery? Are we never to acquire consciousness of our own real strength, but forever to cringe, cap in hand, and with shaking knees, before the men we could put into power, or turn out of it, did we earnestly and unitedly set to work? Did the medical profession of Ontario but justly appreciate its own popular influence and collective strength, and judiciously and honourably put forth that strength, when its own proper interests, or those of the public are at stake. I should like to see the

ministry or the parliament that would snub us. What then, in the name of manhood, is it that we lack? Simply and solely that noble *esprit de corps*, which should actuate every honourable brotherhood; and, gentlemen, it is primarily, and paramountly, in re-unions such as I now have the honour and pleasure of addressing, that this exalting spirit of medical solidarity must have its birth-place, its cradle, its youthful invigoration, and its fully developed manhood; and therefore should we strain every nerve to extend, strengthen, and perpetuate our organization; not however, by begging from our law makers statutory incorporation, or legalised privileges; far rather must we strive to become a law unto ourselves, and to exhibit in our walk in life, that cultivated intelligence, and national benevolence and patriotism, which cannot fail to command the respect of every well-ordered community.

Surely we are not, forever, to submit, in humble silence, to the hackneyed aspersions cast upon us by our detractors in other walks, that "doctors ever disagree," and that "medicine is" as they style it "an uncertain science;" by which they would seem to imply, a non-perfected science; and this from the lips of men whose entire course is but one continuous drama of disagreements and bitter contentions. It will be time enough for us to feel ashamed of our honest differences in opinion, or antagonism of practical judgment, when we see our neighbours of other professions or callings, in their respective spheres, exhibiting harmony of doctrine, and a corresponding harmony of demeanour, Is theology a certain science, and do its teachers never quarrel? Do judges never differ in their interpretations of the law? And what of the harmony of opinion of advocates? Do not all the world know that large fees, or even small ones, will exhumate any quantity of legal certainty, on either side of any case whatever? Outside of the three ancient professions, what certainty of science, or unity of opinion do we find? Do civil engineers, architects, painters, sculptors, geologists, philologists, metaphysicians, and all the other tribes of learned bipeds, constitute just so many happy families, in which neither barking, biting, nor scratching is ever heard of? Finally behold the press! As to certainty (that is perfection) of science, that consummation must be contemporary with its petrifaction, and there always will be in this world a