

recently found in a very clever poem by an English writer, who had travelled much, and had resided long abroad :

"All that's not English in *our* eyes  
Is something to sneer at, and jeer and despise."

But now that I have said so much in self-vindication, both honour and honesty prescribe to me the duty of relieving the printer from blame with regard to the word "dicotomically." You very properly supply the correct word "dichotomously." If you will be so good as to turn to Golgis' article in the Rivista Sperimentale, you will see that on page 178, anno viii, the Italian word used by him is "*dicotomicamente*." Whether my transformation of Golgis' last four syllables into my three—mi-cally—was the result of ignorance, haste, or unconscious cerebration, I cannot now venture to say. We are all liable to be led by the nose, and perhaps some still more by the eyes. You move along docilely in Grecian fealty; I have fallen into Italian servilism; still my deviation from classic propriety has not, I believe, resulted in obscuring the sense of the author. We have a goodly assortment of English adverbs terminating similarly, and as I believe, without violence to etymological propriety. Besides, I had not to fear that I was writing for a people who require the aid of a cold chisel to get a thing into their heads. Americans are wonderfully shrewd *guessers*. Most truthfully I can say I never dreamed that the editor of the *Medical Times and Gazette* would condescend to notice anything coming from a rude Canadian.

But, you will ask me, what of that omitted h? Do not be too exactive. My paternal forebearers were English, and you, I doubt not, are so far a Darwinite as to believe in *atavism*, consequently you will admit that I may sometimes be oblivious as to the claims of this sadly maltreated aspirate; your cockney brethren take all sorts of liberties with it, killing it where it should be allowed to breathe, and dragging it from its slumber to the front, where not only should its absence be excused, but its presence sternly prohibited. You must, as an Italian scholar, admit that the people of the old peninsula have been ten thousand times more merciful than your brethren, for, as a living *sound* they utterly repudiate it; and so in truth do you in "dichotomous"; I bet you do not pronounce that ch, (which in truth should be gh), as the Greeks did their x; or if you do sound it as they did, then I shall know where to locate your nativity. The Italians do not, however, as you know, repudiate the character. They make a very good use of its preserved bones, as a stiffening to their c and g, when these letters might otherwise fall into a limpness out of accord with their radical vocal identity. In this they very closely resemble your War Department, which, on certain occasions, when some nobodies "blundered," called on Hibernian generals to give firmness, pluck and dash

to your armies; witness Arthur Wellesley and Garnet Wolsley.

I must now entreat your pardon for so long a trespass on your valuable time, and so trying an exercise of your patience. Pray do not for a moment suppose that I shall look for any *amende*. Forgiveness is the Christian duty of the injured; the injurer cannot forgive.

I have the honor to be,

Your instructed reader,

JOSEPH WORKMAN, M.D.

P.S.—If you have chanced to see in the July issue of the *Alienist and Neurologist*, a translation (so called) of certain "conclusions" of Binachi, pray heap not Ossa upon Pelion, by deeming me the perpetrator.

J. W.

(To the Editor of the CANADA LANCET.)

SIR,—In the announcement of the Toronto School of Medicine for 1883-84 the following statement appears: "The students of the Toronto School of Medicine have always taken a high standing at the various examinations they have been called on to undergo; and at the examinations in 1883 of the Toronto University, where they met in friendly competition the students from all affiliated institutions, they succeeded in obtaining five scholarships out of six, all the medals, and one hundred and twenty honors, out of a total of one hundred and fifty-six which appeared on the class lists."

This is a most unfair and unwarranted representation, for before such a statement of comparative merits as the foregoing can be made the conditions must be the same, *first*, with respect to the number of candidates from each of the affiliated schools; *second*, with regard to the number of competitors from the affiliated schools in each of the examinations included in the result stated, and, *third*, with regard to the relation each of the schools stands to the examiners.

With respect to the first point, instead of there being an equal number of candidates from each of the schools taking the first, second, third and fourth year's examinations, three-fourths of the total number were from the Toronto School of Medicine and only one-fourth from "all other affiliated institutions." Hence it follows that the Toronto School must win three-fourths of the honors before they could claim anything more than equality. They however leave the reader to