

it really pay?" The Chatham papers recently afford some instances of bad taste, and short-sighted policy in this respect; and the Editor of the *Planet* says, in commenting upon a letter to his paper on "Too much puff." "If the item comes from sources outside the passive and active partners of the amputation, then the reporter is free to use his own judgment as to the propriety of publication, and the local news-hunter of 1882, is the last man in the world to sacrifice his item, gained after a long chase, on the altar of medical etiquette, even under the august image of Esculapius." We subjoin two disgusting samples of Chatham news-hunters' judgment:—

"DO READ THIS.—Two cases of small-pox, between Comber and Stoney Point, and early in the week, the man who brought the news, very wisely received vaccination at the hands of Dr. Holmes. Go thou and do likewise."

"A MODERN MIRACLE.—Dr. Sievewright performed a very remarkable operation on Mr. Antoine, of Munceytown, who had been stone blind for nine months. Under the doctor's skilful operating hands, the unfortunate has regained heaven's greatest physical blessing—sight."

And we ask the editor to tell us candidly if he can afford to sacrifice the good opinion and the good-will of the profession for any profit to be derived from such "perilous stuff." The general reader cannot positively care for, or take an active interest in such intellectual pabulum as this; and it can only prove distasteful and irritating to the professional portion of the community. The answer to the question must, therefore, be, "It does not pay;" and accordingly, on pure business principles, if for no higher reasons, the practice should be abandoned. If some newspaper men are so obtuse as to fail altogether to see the matter in this light, then we hold it to be the duty of medical practitioners, not only to themselves but to the profession also, to put the proposition in concrete terms and discountenance those journals, both personally and through their friends, which persist in defying and doing violence to a well recognized and honourable *esprit de corps*.

## MANUFACTURING DOCTORS.

They are manufacturing more doctors in the United States, in proportion to the population, than any country in the world. Perhaps, one of the chief reasons is the fact that it is there such an easy matter to acquire the license to practice. In many quarters, they require little or no preliminary training, a very short time of attendance on lectures, and then put the candidate through the farce of what is called an examination, after which they send him forth to the world as a fully-fledged Doctor of Medicine—a member of the *regular profession*, which we are pleased to hold in high esteem.

We have a good example of these rapidly grinding mills in the city of Detroit, where a young man can matriculate, attend one course of lectures, *pass*, and go out a fully-licensed practitioner, although possessing only that diminutive amount of knowledge which is really more dangerous than simple ignorance. It is true that this institution, which has the assurance to class itself among the respectable teaching bodies of the country, pretends to require attendance on two courses of lectures, and yet we know that it has given its diploma to men who have not shown tickets for attendance on more than one course of lectures in any branch of medicine. It must be some what discouraging to the respectable Medical Institutions of New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and other cities, to be placed on a level, as far as the power of granting degrees is concerned, with any such school as the one referred to. Under the circumstances we can hardly wonder at the comparative success of outsiders practising in the State of Michigan, as it must be easy to win in the race with men who must of necessity be sadly deficient in ordinary mental culture and scientific medical training.

In Ontario, nothing so disgraceful can occur, thanks to those who established the Medical Council as it is at present constituted. It gives us what many in the United States would like, a Central Examining Board; and we should never lose sight of this important fact, while called upon too frequently to criticize many imperfections and stupid mistakes in the past history of the Council's proceedings.