

This will furnish a corollary which would appear to have acted as the incentive to every subsequent procedure of that party.

It is necessary further to observe, that the petition to the Legislature praying for the Act of Incorporation was signed by 181 provincial licentiates, 36 of whom only are parties to the protest, and of these, three (Drs. Badeau, Robitaille, and Dubé) denied at the meeting, when their names were read, that they had either signed the protest, or authorized any one to do it for them. Whoever, therefore, was the prime mover in getting the protest drawn out and served, would appear to have made use, in a most unwarrantable manner, of the names of those gentlemen, and we have, therefore, some good grounds for believing that a similar liberty has been taken with the names of a number of others.* But, be this as it may, of the 97 protesters, 36 only are members of the corporation, and the remaining 61 are in the precise predicament of those who have volunteered to meddle with a matter with which they have nothing to do; and if that treatment is meted to them, which is usually accorded to persons under like circumstances, they have their own officiousness only to thank for it.

We may still further remark, that of the 97 names attached to the document, 47 obtained their provincial license since January, 1844, and of this number 29 were students of the Incorporated School of Medicine in this city, two facts which prove their age in the profession, the amount of influence which their opinions on medical matters may be supposed to possess, and the extent of gratitude which they have displayed to their former preceptors, who were active agents in promoting the Bill of Incorporation.

And there is, lastly, another circumstance connected with the protest, which appears to us seriously to damage its character as a legal document, at least so far as the individuals themselves are concerned, if not to a greater extent, and it resides in the fact, that 52 of the names are not blessed with even the initials of Christian names, or even by any *nom de guerre*. Hence we have experienced considerable difficulty in recognising some of them as provincial licentiates at all, and of ascertaining which individual was meant, out of the 2, 3, or 4 persons rejoicing in the same cognomen. This, however, we apprehend, may prove a positive advantage to some, for if it be true that a blush may betray a still lingering trace of virtue, there may be some who at a future day may de-

sire to efface their handiwork, and thus succeed in shuffling off their names successfully upon some less fortunate wight of similar patronymic.

But we now proceed to the consideration of their reasons. Their 1st and 2d reasons relate to the composition of the Board of Governors, and the incorporation, at the meeting in September last, of six or seven gentlemen who had signified their concurrence in the measure, but whose names had been inadvertently omitted in the Act. We have to observe, that this step was taken in virtue of the legal opinion of the then Attorney General previously obtained, and that when the motion for incorporating these gentlemen was put from the chair, it was unanimously carried, even Dr. Coderre and his party voting for it. We believe that legal opinion of an opposite character has been since obtained by Dr. Coderre and his party. But this does not prove that the opinion of the Attorney General was wrong. It is as proverbial for lawyers to differ, as it is for doctors; and if, under the latter circumstances, as the proverb hath it, patients die, it is no less equally certain that, under the former, clients bleed. The Board of Governors is prepared to defend the course which the corporation took on that occasion, whenever the protesting party may call upon them to do so.

The 3d reason makes reference to the substitution of Dr. Campbell for Dr. Charlebois in the Board of Governors; and we know of nothing which more clearly proves the obstructive character of the opposition which the Board of Governors has received than this one. We shall simply narrate the facts of the case. At the September meeting, the 15 Governors for the District of Montreal concluded with the names of four persons who had an equality of 36 votes—these being Drs. Charlebois, Tavernier, Sutherland, and Hall. It was found shortly afterwards, that the scrutineers had made a wrong return, and that Dr. Campbell had 36 votes also, thus causing a tie. In the meantime Dr. Charlebois had repeatedly declared his intention to several parties not to serve as a Governor, and was not present at the meeting of the Governors in Quebec in the latter part of September last, nor was he present at the subsequent meeting of the Board in the following October in this his own city. To avoid difficulties, however, the President addressed him a letter, which was handed to him in person by the Secretary, requesting to know whether it was his intention to serve as a Governor, and asking for an early answer. This was done several days before the meeting of the Board in this city. To this letter Dr. C. returned no answer, *until the close of the meeting of the Board on the second day, when he then, by letter, informed the*

* Since the foregoing was written, and in confirmation of our suspicion, we have been informed that Dr. Tassé repudiates all connection with the protest, and states that his name has been used unauthorizedly. How many others are similarly situated we know not, but time will tell.