

support of community, and they should be sustained by a united profession. If this is done there is not a community in this country which could not elect a qualified medical Coroner. In the recent contest which resulted in the election of Dr. LANKESTER to the Coronership of Middlesex, the medical men of the district unitedly gave him their assistance. We find among his active supporters in the canvass, SIR JAMES CLARK, SIR CHARLES LOCOCK, DR. C. J. B. WILLIAMS, M. PAGET, and many other medical men of the highest respectability: They succeeded, and the result of placing so competent a person in this position will be, aside from the interests of justice, that the office of Coroner will become daily more respectable, and eventually only qualified medical men will be nominated for the place."

It is not now the first time that we have written in favour of the appointment of Medical men as Coroners, in the Lower Province. In Upper Canada such appointments appear to be acted upon by the Government as the rule, but in the Lower Province with trifling exceptions, the government is apparently satisfied with the action of captains of Militia, as adjutants to the duly appointed Coroners, only three or four of whom act with independent jurisdiction. It will scarcely be credited that in a city like Montreal, with 100,000 inhabitants, there is only one coroner, while every small city in the Upper Province has three or four; and the absurdity is still further enhanced by the fact, that the coroner for the city is also that for the District of Montreal, with four subordinates, independently of the captains of Militia, some of whom are blessed with a most imperfect education. Why is the system adopted in Upper Canada not pursued in Lower Canada? Not that it should be carried out to the same ridiculous length, but that its principle should be at least adopted. Our space is too limited in this number to enter fully into the subject, but we purpose to devote some space to the elucidation of it in a succeeding issue.

ACTION FOR SLANDER—DR. WILSON vs. S. T. CASEY.

The causes of action for slander against physicians are so frequent, yet so rarely punished, that it is very refreshing to find one amongst us bold enough to step out of the ranks of long suffering and vindicate his reputation. Who is there among us who could not repeat Dr. Wilson's tale. In fact if there is an individual against whom the shafts of envy, hatred, and all uncharitableness are poured forth, it is the physician who, in his daily walks, is continually endeavoring to do good, but whose good efforts, unless positively seen, are by even many of the better class certain to be misconstrued. If we mistake not, this trial is the first of its kind in Canada, we hope it will be the last, with one exception, whose antecedents have already appeared in these columns. The case of Dr. Wilson will appear from what follows, which we copy from the *Belleville Intelligencer* without going into the minutiae of the trial, which we conceive to be unnecessary.

DR. WILSON vs. SAM'L T. CASEY—This was an action of slander.—Dr. Benjamin S. Wilson of Roslin, sued the defendant, who lives in Thurlow, on account of certain slanderous statements which, it was alleged, said defendant had put in circulation. The grounds of the complaint are simply these:—It appears that Mr. Casey had stated that the doctor had killed an uncle of his, by giving him medicine too strong for his constitution, and intimated to one of the witnesses