

ously interfere with rest. Her Majesty has just recovered from a recurrence of neuralgia, attacking the face severely. The attacks have been attributable to disturbance of the nervous system, due to exposure, worry or excitement."

We fear there must be something radically wrong about the royal residences, to account for the above, and we hope the authorities will look well to the matter before we have a repetition of the melancholy occurrence which terminated so disastrously in the case of the late Prince Consort.

Foul air from defective drainage or imperfect ventilation is a much more frequent exciting cause of neuralgia than either "exposure, worry, or excitement," in a person otherwise so well cared for, and nourished as Her Majesty.

Correspondence.

(The Editors do not hold themselves responsible for the opinions of correspondents.)

OUR HAMILTON CORRESPONDENT.

To the Editors of the Dominion Medical Journal :

There is an unusual commotion amongst members of the profession in this city at the present time, owing to two causes principally. The first subject of interest was the election of two members of the Hospital Medical Board. I may state, for the information of your readers, that two members are elected annually, whose term of office is three years. The election is held under the authority of a city by-law, which says that the election shall take place annually, at a meeting of the "regular" members of the profession, to be convened by circular from the City Clerk. Ever since Dr. Parker's Act was passed, the City Clerk has been in the habit of writing to the Registrar of the Council for a list of the regular practitioners of the city, by which list he has always been guided. The Registrar, of course, looked to his register for this list. No objection was ever raised to this course until the meeting of the 9th inst., when two homœopaths and an eclectic presented themselves, claiming the right to vote. A scene ensued. Two or three members asked upon what grounds these gentlemen thrust themselves into the society of the regular members of the profession. To which they replied that they had been summoned by the City Clerk. This functionary was then arraigned, but he said he was guided by the official list of the Registrar of the Council, who, being present, was very severely censured for returning the names of homœopaths and eclectics. It was mortifying to think that a member of their own profession should degrade them by placing homœo-

paths, &c., on the same level with themselves. The Registrar defended himself by reading the 37th section of the Ontario Medical Act, which says, in effect, that "whenever, after the passing of the said Act, any words importing legal recognition are used in any act or law, it shall be construed to mean a person registered under the said Act, so far as relates to the Province of Ontario." The majority were satisfied, from this, that the Registrar had properly regarded the word "regular" as one "importing legal recognition," and therefore was not justly censurable. There are some, however, who charge him with betraying the interests of the profession, and talk of asking the Medical Council to define the word "regular." Dr. Billings was in the chair, and he decided that homœopaths and eclectics had a legal right to vote if they were registered. The vote was then taken, by ballot, and resulted in the election of Dr. Isaac Ryall and Dr. Strange. Dr. Macintosh protested on the ground of the "irregular votes given."

The other source of unusual commotion was the address of Dr. Mackintosh, as retiring President of the Hamilton Medical and Surgical Society. The society elected for its officers for the ensuing year, as follows:—J. W. Rosebrugh, M. D., President; J. D. Macdonald, M. D., Vice-President; and John A. Mullen, M. D., Secretary. The time of the meeting was fully taken up with the usual routine business of the annual meeting. I shall endeavour to give you a report of the proceedings of the Society's monthly meetings, for each number of the JOURNAL, also an abstract of the most interesting cases in the city hospital during the preceeding month. In the next number of the JOURNAL I shall give you a report of an operation for the removal of an epithelial cancer involving the right half of both upper and lower lips and a considerable portion of the cheek. The deficiency being supplied by bringing up a flap from the anterior portion of the neck.

Yours, etc.,
FORCERS.

Hamilton, February, 1870.

[With all deference to the Registrar, of the Medical Council, we are convinced he has made a grave mistake, in his interpretation of the Medical Act. We have good reasons for believing that the term "Regular Practitioner" is *not* used to imply simply "legal recognition," but is always used to indicate a member of the orthodox profession, as distinguished from the Homœopathic or Eclectic. The word "regular" is always used as synonymous with orthodox or allopathic.]—ED. D. M. J.