

Executive Committee in the medical journals; the submitting to the entire profession of every detail of the expenses of the council year by year, and the examinations being public, so far as to admit any professional man who wishes to be present.

As the representative of Trinity Faculty I have always advocated these views, and shall if again honoured with that position continue to do so. We have no selfish, or school policy of any kind to carry out, but we do most sincerely wish to make the council so evidently a benefit to the entire profession as not only to secure its permanence, but to rally medical men and students equally around it.

W. B. GEIKIE, M.D.,

Member of the Medical Council representing Trinity Medical School.

Toronto, May, 1880.

To the Editor of the CANADA LANCET.

SIR,—I noticed in a recent issue of the *Globe* a copy of a petition, said to be in circulation in Toronto, having the following preamble:—"Whereas, we the loyal subjects of her most gracious majesty Queen Victoria, do find that the Medical Act infringes on public rights, by interfering with the free exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship" (?) etc., etc.

Can it be possible, Mr. Editor, that anyone outside of a lunatic asylum could be found to write such trash? I am not a betting man, but I would not be afraid to risk a small amount that the foregoing preamble and its context is the production of some half-witted dupe of the *Clairvois-Electro-Thero-Cura-Pathic* stripe,—a sort of hybrid no doubt,—a half free-love moralist and half abortionist. There are any number of the kind, spread not only over the city of Toronto, but scattered throughout different parts of the Province. The public cannot be too strictly protected against these would-be gifted scientists. They ply their trade by bluster and pretence, and attract the weak and credulous by their glittering pretentious signs, and wonderful stock of parchments, bought by the yard, from swindling institutions operating in some of the cities of the United States. One of these disease slayers and wholesale diploma possessors located himself in the town of Oshawa, for a time, under the patronage and fostering care of some free-love dentists. This connection afforded him

excellent facilities for carrying on the special line of practice peculiar to his class. His peculiar treatment brought about such unexpected results (to his patients), that he had to migrate suddenly. Collingwood, I think, is his base of operations at present. The pole of his battery (so he said) would "snuff out any disease in a twinkling of an eye." His patients were principally confined to a certain class. He rubbed some, soaked some, stewed some, and applied artificial and animal magnetism to a good many. The latter, in some instances, had a wonderful effect, especially with innocent and unsuspecting females. However sceptical this electrician may have been in Divine law, like the rival of Sarah Bernhart, he carefully complied with one of its injunctions, namely, "increase and multiply."

The Oshawa institution, like most of its kind, had a long scientific sort of title, and served at times as a sort of sanitarium for certain special jobs in the hands of his preceptor practising then in the vicinity of Markham, but now under exile.

The public are not competent to judge who should, or should not practice the profession of medicine, and are not, therefore, the proper parties to advise, or instruct the Legislature in such matters. It is to be hoped the profession throughout the Province will adopt active measures, if necessary, against any attempt to abolish, or modify, in any way, the protection to life afforded by the penal clauses of the Ontario Medical Act. Trusting the Medical Council will look sharply after the circulating petition, and also the class of imposters above referred to,

I am, very truly,

PRACTITIONER.

Oshawa, April 25, 1880.

To the Editor of the CANADA LANCET.

SIR,—How much longer are our medical students to endure the annoyance of having the President of one of our medical schools continued as Treasurer of the Ontario Medical Council? It is manifestly unjust to have any teacher in such a place, and very galling to the great majority of medical students to be compelled to pay their fees to a Treasurer who belongs to a school they do not attend. And it is passing strange that the Council should be so foolishly blind as to continue this annoyance year after year. Having had