

watchmaker does the watch. And besides all this, attain to the distinguished honor of becoming, like himself and his medical associates,

"SONS OF ESCULAPIUS."

It is very common for persons or communities claiming undue ascendancy over others, to attempt, in the absence of a better title, to maintain their tottering position by claiming connection or descent from some Noble ancestry; thus the Jewish pharisees (when shown by the Saviour the absurdity of their cherished errors and pretensions) claimed to be Sons of Abraham, but *He* kindly assisted them to trace their origin and affinity to a very ancient and distinguished personage, to whom they bore a stronger resemblance, in spirit and doings, than to Abraham.—In like manner our haughty Canadian medical pharisees frequently claim the right to persecute and destroy every other system of physic, or class of physicians but their own; because they and their party are learned sons of *Esculapius, Hippocrates* or *Galen*. Authentic history says but little about Esculapius, except that he was an ancient physician, wore a bushy beard, and walked with a knotty cane, and that under this representation, he was, after death, Deified for his former success in curing disease, a thing not very likely to happen to any of our medical pharisees, so long as they pursue a system of medical practice that gives the lie to *Nature's Law*, and tramples upon her best resources. "This did not" *Hippocrates* or *Galen*. History says of Hippocrates that he B. C. 456 years, that he was the founder of Medical science—that he was a zealous, unwearied observer of nature, and considered disease with a *free spirit*, unprejudiced by any system—that his principal *merit* in *medicine* consisted in his clearing this science from the useless subtleties of the many philosophical sects of that period, and in making it, instead of the exclusive property of the priest, a *common good*, open to every one who wished to study it. He directed the attention of physicians to the importance of external influences to the healing powers of nature; and faithfully communicated his experience. *Galen*, the successor of Hippocrates, followed him in opinion and practice, and both these ancient *unlicensed* physicians, applied themselves like the Thomsonians of the present time, to improving the *Materia Medica*, by classifying and bringing into use the natural vegetable medicines of the respective countries in which they resided. Thus far these fathers of physic are the progenitors of the Thomsonian or Botanic system of Practice, and did they live in Canada

at the present time, they would share with them the odium of being dissenters from legal orthodox physic, and become as obnoxious to the hue and cry of "Root Doctor! Mad Dog! Murder! Rascal! Robber! All Dishonest," &c., &c., which the Medical Pharisees have raised against Medical Reform, as are any portion of the community that advocated the principle. But, although these M. D. P.'s have even less right to claim affinity with Hippocrates and Galen, than had the Jewish P.'s to claim it with Abraham, yet not wishing to leave them *fatherless*, we cut from a medical work in our possession, the following account of their origin. Of its correctness we leave the public, who know their *spirit* and *conduct*, to judge:—

"Paracelsus was the father of the present mineral system; he was a native of Switzerland; he pursued a rambling, vagrant life, was intemperate, and mingled in the lowest and most degraded company. Hoozer, in his Medical Dictionary, page 153, says—'He appears to have possessed the talent of impressing upon mankind in an *eminent degree*;' and his followers, with some honorable exceptions, have by no means *degenerated*, but rather *improved*, in this respect."

We would not wish to be understood as intending, (much less saying like the Organ of the medical Corporation in Montreal) that all who oppose us in medical matters are immoral or dishonest; there are probably many moral sons of Paracelsus who sincerely believe like Sydenham "that the blood is some how or other the cause of disease, and that, if they draw that off, they will generally effect a cure!" or with the majority of our *Regular* practitioners and their old Medical Authors, that Nature's increased action to remove obstruction, is disease! and if that action is not diminished by depletion or poison of some kind, (not by removing the obstruction, the cause) the patient will die from excess of life! A large proportion of their patients may sink in *detail*, as they do ordinarily under that kind of treatment; or by wholesale, as hundreds of them have done in Montreal, Kingston, and elsewhere. The same diseases may be treated successfully, and the patients in nine cases out of ten saved as has been the case in the same vicinities by Thomsonians and others, yet all this will fail to awaken the attention of the Medical *Pharisee*, or cause him to doubt the propriety of his course, while, with the Jewish one, he believes that all without the pale of *his sect* must necessarily be in darkness, ignorance and error, and that to fine and imprison them for presuming to see