

WASHINGTON vs. TAYLOR.—At the last assizes in Walkerton an action for damages was brought by Dr. Washington against Dr. Taylor of Tara, for having publicly stated that he could prove "manslaughter" and "malpractice" in the treatment of a patient under Dr. W.'s care. (see Oct. No.) It was proved in court that Dr. Taylor did make these statements, but owing to some want of technicality in the indictment the judge (Justice Galt) declared a non-suit. A new trial has been applied for, which is expected to come before the Court of Queen's Bench, Toronto.

In reference to the above, we have received a long letter from Dr. Washington reaffirming the statements in his previous communication, and refuting the statements of Dr. Taylor in the last issue. Dr. Washington's statements are endorsed by the signatures of Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Hammond, guardians of the "child," who express their entire satisfaction with Dr. Washington's treatment of the case, Richard Hammond and others. We do not publish it however, as we think the profession has heard enough of this affair.

#### TREATMENT OF OBSTINATE FORMS OF EPILEPSY.

--Dr. McLane Hamilton in the *Medical Record* says that the three drugs which give the best results in the treatment of this disease are the bromide of sodium and potassium, ergot and belladonna. He gives the Bromide in 20 grain doses thrice daily, and if necessary, in the course of a week in doses of 30 and even 40 grs., until the toxic effect is produced. He considers the bromides more suitable to cases in which the attacks come on in the day time than in nocturnal epilepsy—belladonna and ergot are indicated in the *petit mal*. The hypodermic injection of the alkaloids seems to be the most efficacious mode of administration.

NEW SOURCE OF INDIA RUBBER.—It appears (*Canadian Pharmaceutical Journal*) that the common silkweed of Canada (*Asclepias Cornuti*) is to be turned to good account. The milky juice of this plant (sometimes called milkweed) contains a considerable quantity of caoutchouc, and a company has been formed in London, Ont., for the purpose of developing this new branch of manufacture. In some preliminary experiments which were made, it was found that the plant yielded about four per cent. of caoutchouc.

JUDGMENT REVERSED.—A correspondent writes us, in reference to our remarks in the Oct. No., in connection with the case of Dr. Patterson, to say that the American Eclectic University of Phila. whose charter was repealed by the Legislature in March, 1872, has had that judgment reversed by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. The Judge declared that the corporation was entitled to a trial in due course of law, to ascertain its breach of duty, before its charter could be taken away.

REMOVAL OF THE SPLEEN.—The *British Medical Journal* relates a case in which the spleen was successfully removed by Dr. Urbinato of Cesino. The incision was made in the median line, and was about 7 inches long. Ten ligatures were used, five superficial and five deep. They were brought out between the sutures. The operation lasted an hour. The spleen weighed 2½ lbs. The patient died of peritonitis three days after the operation.

In the price-list of H. J. Rose, published on our last page, we notice in the alterations for the present month that mercurial preparations have advanced considerably; and what is more affecting, quinine is still advancing. Iodine and its preparations are somewhat lower. He has a supply of cincho-quinine, if any of our friends would like to try the new preparation.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Medical Council of Ontario was held on the 19th ult. They had under consideration, among other things, the Amendments to the Ontario Medical Act. It is proposed to incorporate them in the present Act, so as to consolidate and make it more convenient for reference.

APPOINTMENTS.—The following Coroners have been appointed in Ontario.—William Welland Dickson, of the town of Pembroke, Esq., M.D., to be an Associate Coroner within and for the county of Renfrew. Duncan James Pollock, of the village of Agincourt, Esq., M.D., to be an Associate Coroner within and for the county of York.

There is a good opening for a medical man in the thriving village of Manilla. See advertisement in another page.