

Tight Binding

POO

The Journal.

Thursday, March 8, 1860.

THE AMENDMENT OF THE MEDICAL ACT.

We notice that Mr. Tilley has brought in a Bill to amend the Medical Act, passed at the last session of the Legislature. We have not received information as to what the contemplated amendment may be, but presume that it refers to the qualification which shall entitle medical practitioners to registration. At any rate we are sure that this is a point which requires amendment.

The Medical Council have not, since they became the judges of the proper qualification, showed themselves as just or as liberal as they should have been in that particular. Persons who had been engaged previous to the passing of the Act in the practice of Medicine, according to Homoeopathic principles, and who had after a course of study obtained diplomas from Homoeopathic colleges, have been deprived of the benefits of registration, on the plea that such diplomas did not entitle them thereto.

Such a course of conduct was unjustifiable for more reasons than one. When the Bill was under discussion mention was made of this class of practitioners, and it was understood or thought to be so, that they were not to be excluded, and in this understanding public opinion fully acquiesced. The public did not and do not believe, that it is the province of the Legislature to decide between opposing theories of medicine. Yet such is the construction put upon the Act. According to that construction the Act says, Homoeopathic theories are incorrect, — they are mere quackery, and consequently those persons who practice in accordance therewith are pretending to knowledge that they do not possess, are cheating and duping their patients, and consequently deserve that their services shall go unrewarded. As well might the Legislature attempt to decide ex-cathedra, as to what shall be the correct treatment for small-pox or typhus fever, and as well might they pass a law rendering it penal to give an emetic, where they had in their wisdom decided that a cathartic was the better dose. If they are the proper persons to decide one of those differences, surely it is equally their right to decide the other.

But the construction which the House put upon that Act was a different one. They saw that there existed a necessity for pointing out by legal enactment that only such persons as had studied medicine were qualified to practice medicine, and they enacted that these persons, and they only, should be able to obtain by legal process, remuneration for such services, inasmuch as they were the only persons who had acquired the requisite knowledge to make these services of such practical utility as to be worthy of remuneration.

In doing this they did not infringe upon the liberty of the subject, but they simply protected the unwary from the pretensions of ignorant and unscrupulous quacks, — they not having themselves acquired such knowledge as rendered them competent to detect them for themselves.

But if the Legislature had gone further than this, — if they had said, as the Medical Council would fain interpret them to have said, — there is one class of persons who have studied at what we consider to be orthodox schools, and

having been indoctrinated into their theories, have obtained their license to practise. There is another class of persons who have studied at, and obtained licenses from, heterodox schools, whose theories are heretical, whose practice founded thereon is false. We therefore determine that we will encourage the first and discourage the latter, — and thereunto enact that the first shall be paid for their services and the latter shall not, — they would have been guilty of an act of tyranny and have been open to the charge of striving to burke free thought and liberty of opinion.

The Medical Council have not by this course of conduct raised their profession in public estimation. They have on the contrary, led many a one to think that these Homoeopathic doctrines, which were apparently so absurd, must have a much larger proportion of truth in their composition than they had heretofore supposed, inasmuch as the old and established Medical body seemed so anxious to stretch more legalizing enactments into penal statutes against their disciples.

We think that they have erred in this way rather from over-zealousness, than from any real spirit of persecution. They have forgotten that their organization under this law was not a mere society for the purpose of elucidating correct medical theories, and from which they would have had a perfect right to exclude those whom they honestly, and perhaps with good reason, believe to be so wedded to a delusion, as to be incapable of knowing the difference between darkness and light; but rather a governing body upon whose decision depended the possibility of certain persons obtaining their livelihood by the use of knowledge which they had acquired with the fond hope that they might exercise it not only with advantage to themselves, but also to those among whom their lot might be cast, — a liberty which the preparation for the duty these men had undergone, gave them as good a right to, as is possessed by the members of that governing body itself.

We are glad to see that the question of amendment is brought forward by Mr. Tilley, as we have a guarantee in the perseverance and ability which the hon. gentleman displayed last session, in conducting the Medical Act through many difficulties and much opposition, to a successful termination, that the motion is not a mere feint, having for its real object the repeal of what, with this amendment, is really a very excellent and salutary law.

CIVIC ELECTION.

Monday next is the day appointed by the Act of Incorporation for the election of the Mayor and Council for the Town of Woodstock.

We have not heard of any candidates for the first post, except the gentleman who has so worthily filled that office ever since it was created. Nor do our citizens seem at all anxious for a change, — on the contrary the generally expressed opinion seems to be that it would be difficult for us to find a more able and efficient civic head.

In some, if not all of the wards, we believe there will be a number of candidates for the honor of representing them. We trust that our citizens will so dispose of their votes as to ensure the return of good and wise men, — men who while they will continue, as our civic dignitaries have heretofore generally done, to use a wise discretion in the expenditure of the public money, will see the propriety of exercising their trust in no niggardly, penny-wise and

pound-foolish way, and thus save themselves from bringing into contempt the office which they fill. We warn our citizens against placing such men in power, because we think we can see a growing belief in our County in the fallacy that the cheapest way of having public work done, is to get it at the lowest possible price, a principle which has its origin in ignorance, and which cannot but produce other ill effects, beside the mere waste of the public funds, which it occasions.

THE TRUTH OF SPIRITUALISM. — A distinguished military friend of ours, whose veracity may be relied on, but who is not remarkable at any time for his faith in matters pertaining to the "spirit world," told us, a few days since, how he became a convert to the belief that the mediums can call "spirits from the vasty deep," and that they will come when they are called.

He was at the house of an acquaintance who had strong faith in the truth of the appearances, and was expressing his incredulity in a bantering style. To convince him, she offered to take him that evening to a medium, so that he could see for himself.

Accordingly at the time appointed they went, and heard many spirits manifest themselves, and numerous extraordinary revelations made, containing the usual amount of information for mankind generally. But still our friend did not believe. At last one of the party bethought herself of a certain dog, who had lately departed this life, and who had been remarkable for his sagacity. The presence of his spirit was commanded. Wonderful to relate! no sooner was Caesar called, than the table upon which they were practising began to go round the floor, trot, trot, wagging that part of it which followed; and which might therefrom reasonably be supposed to represent its tail, and a distinct how-wow-wow was rapped out, marvellously like the sweet voice of the animal when alive. Need we say our friend doubted no more?

We have received the March number of the GUARDIAN. We notice on one of its pages that the Post Master General allows it to pass through the mail postage free, a decision creditable to him, showing as it does a disposition to encourage the growth of New Brunswick Magazine literature.

Arthur's Home Magazine has also come to hand. Harper's Magazine for February has also been kindly forwarded to us by Mr. S. R. Miller of Fredericton.

THE PRINCE OF ORANGE. — They who frequent Court circles inform us that the young Prince of Orange is about to espouse our Princess Alice. Such an alliance would unquestionably tend to consolidate our Protestant and political interests; but it may be doubted whether it would be favorably viewed in Holland. The grandfather of the present King of Holland bequeathed an enormous fortune to his three sons, one of whom the father of the present king, whilst Prince of Orange, distinguished himself at Waterloo; he married the Czar's sister Paulowna, and proved himself a better soldier than financier, for he quickly squandered his inheritance, and the mysterious disappearance of his consort's casket of magnificent jewels produced a lawsuit as famous and scandalous as that of the famous Collier de la Reine. The sudden withdrawal of the prosecution gave rise to various rumours at the Hague connected with the King's extravagance. His brother, Prince Frederick, husbanded his immense wealth, and by extensive purchases of land in Siberia and Holland has quadrupled his fortune. These vast possessions will fall to his two daughters, one of whom, the Princess Marie, has been supposed in Holland as the destined bride of the heir to the throne. The Prince and his cousin did not appear much attached to each other, but the thrifty Hollanders think, with good reason, that this money should be kept in the family if possible. — Letter from Paris.

Fredericton Correspondence.

TUESDAY, February 28.

Lawrence gave notice of motion for address for details of statement of monies paid out of proceeds of sale Debentures issued under 19 Vis. Chap. 16, an act to provide for construction of Railways as well as out of profits on sale of bills drawn against proceeds of said Debentures from 31st Oct. 1858 to 1st March, 1859 — 1st, stating to whom paid — 2d, amount paid and date — 3d, for what service paid or on what account.

Tilley submitted estimates. Ordinary revenue estimated at £137,356. Expenditure, £156,577. Expenditures of this year over last, £12,500 to meet deficiency of interest on Railway expenditure. £5,500 on grant-by roads. £2000 towards addition to Lunatic Asylum. £1000 towards Hospital in St. John. Education £1000. Mineral Resources, examination, £500 — there remained on 1st November, £30,000, sterling, and £30,000 currency, credit with Bank of New Brunswick to meet debt due the Savings Bank depositors. The excess of Revenue of last year more than meets the deficiency of 1858, and all demands on Treasury for 1859.

House adjourned at 5.30.

WEDNESDAY, February 29.

Williston gave notice of an address for detailed statement of the expense of Public Printing of all descriptions.

M'Phelim gave notice that he will move on Friday that the House do not go into further consideration of supply until Government lay on the table detailed statement of expenditure from Nov. 1st. 1858 to March 1st. 1860. (Quite right but Smashers, the honest men included, will vote it down.)

Victoria Suspension Bridge Bill committed and afterwards referred to a Committee. Tapley moved for leave to bring in an Orange Incorporation Bill.

Smith suggested that the question be taken on the motion for leave. Others demurred, and the Bill was brought in without a division.

Williston asked if the Government had remonstrated with the British Government against the repeal of the Duty on Foreign Lumber.

The Secretary replied that the Government had no official information. Smith, Allen and Kerr are appointed a select Committee on the law of Marriage and Divorce. (Do the Smashers really intend to introduce that monstrous Divorce Law into this Province?)

Progress reported on Williston's Debtors Law. The object is to empower Justices to discharge from prison debtors who under the present law would be entitled to weekly support.

THURSDAY, March 1.

Last night Tapley was chosen Chairman of Railway Committee, and J. H. Beck appointed to take evidence.

Bills to incorporate Westmorland and Albert Mining Co., Letete Mining Co., Westmorland Co., Olive Freestone Co., passed.

Tilley presented a petition signed by some 800 inhabitants of St. John, praying for incorporation of Victoria Bridge Company.

Several petitions in favor of Orange Incorporation Bill introduced. Mitchell's Bill to amend the Act relating to Buoy and Beacons committed. — Progress made. Principle is that balances of funds instead of lying in hands of Commissioners be paid into Provincial Treasury.

Tilley introduced a Bill relating to mode of counting in currency, also one to amend Medical Act.

Lewis introduced a Bill to extend the jurisdiction of Magistrates in civil suits. Fisher said bankrupt law being printed, it contained 22 sections. Several notices of motion for address given, and several notices on previous notices made.

House adjourned at 3.30.

FRIDAY, March 2.

M'Phelim moved a resolution for a statement of the expenditure from November 1st, 1859, to March 1st, 1860.

Tilley said the information was laid on the table yesterday. Resolution withdrawn.

Kerr explained the scheme of the Board of Agriculture for the importation of two horses from the United States, and cattle, sheep and swine from England, at a cost

of £2,500, and asked Tilley if the Government would make provision for this.

Tilley replied that it was a very difficult matter as the Budget was made up; but the Government would advance £2,000, the proceeds of the sale of stock after importation to be returned to the Treasury.

Several hours were spent in conversation upon the matter. It was stated that Charles Perley has been selected to go to England as agent. (Allowance 240 pounds a year, and two pounds a day. Eb.)

Several members urged the propriety of giving the larger sum, others thought that the £2,000 was a liberal grant.

A resolution for a joint address to the British Government upon the subject of admittance of woods' goods into France under the new treaty, passed unanimously.

Smith referred to the statement in the Freeman respecting the expense of the Delegates. Fisher and he were absent 3 months, Fisher got £240 sterling, expenses, he the same expenses, and £2 currency per day.

FRIDAY, March 6.

Kerr moved for detailed statement of Treasurer; Deputy Treasurers, &c. Gray asked for full information respecting Contracts, expenditures, &c., respecting Grand Falls Bridge. On both subjects Tilley said full information would be given in the Address. M'Phelim asked what had been done respecting appointment of Commissioner in place of Cudlip. The Speaker will no motion respecting it had been before the House. Tilley's Bill in amendment to Medical Act, first section passed. — It declares the legality of register — not to affect pending suits. Cudlip proposed an amendment to second section, recognizing distinctly the equal rights of Homoeopaths with the Allopathist practitioners. Progress reported. Tilley moved Supply, Gray opposed, and moved a resolution to grant Supply until the Report in from Committee on Public Accounts. Complaints of unsatisfactory returns from Deputy Treasurers and absence of full information respecting Grand Falls Bridge. Tilley expressed willingness of Government for any delay not inconsistent with the public service. Williston went elaborately into figures in connection with the Financial statement, and comparative state of the Province. Debate and House adjourned at half past 5.

FREDERICTON, March 7th.

Cudlip asked to be excused sitting on Railway Committee; excused. Wright was appointed. The bill to amend the law respecting Sea and River Fisheries was agreed to. Bill gives authority to Fishery Wardens to act outside the counties in which appointed. Discussion upon the importance and protection. Opinions were expressed that Government should take the control and protection of them.

Williston moved House into committee upon the St. John Water Commissioners Bill. Tilley moved in amendment to the up the adjourned debate on Gray's resolution. Amendment carried, 19 to 17.

Debate on Gray's resolution resumed. Several members spoke. Gray and Tilley at length. Resolution lost, twenty six to thirteen. Yeas — Gray, M'Phelim, Lawrence, Williston, Botsford, Allen, M'Phelim, Scovil, Vail, Gilbert, Willmot, M'Phelim, DesBrisay. Montgomery absent.

Committee of supply passed votes for Legislative expenses, Judicial expenses and collection and protection of Revenue. Passed without opposition.

A Paris letter thus describes Louis Napoleon on one of the spacious avenues of that imperial city: —

"Driving a pair of splendid bays attached to a box wagon, with the reins in his own hands, and handling them as though he was accustomed to it, without any outriders, querries or guards, the Emperor Napoleon came along the avenue. He was dressed in a black overcoat, and a hat which was of a fashion of its own. The points of his moustache looked particularly sharp, and his 'imperial' as though it had just come from the barber's. It required a steady hand and a quick eye to guide these dashing horses through the immense throng of vehicles of every description which filled the avenue, particularly as the driver, while keeping one eye upon the steeds, was obliged with the other to acknowledge the salutations which he received on every side, and he kept up a continual bowing. I consider myself a tolerably good Democrat, but I took my hat entirely from my head as he passed. A great man is he — he has been successful and cant as pseudo philosophers may about it, success is the true measure of great men, after all. The Emperor gives us yet no signs of age, (he will be fifty-two on the 28th of April next) but looks as fresh and young, I think, as when I saw him five years ago, before he had the whole weight of Europe on his shoulders, and the Pope 'down on him.'"

RAYMOND AND THE GOVERNMENT.

F. S. HOYT AND JUSTICE.

To the Editor of the Woodstock Journal. — The question is frequently asked, what has the Government done in reference to the charge against Mr. Raymond?

It is generally known that the father of the missing colored man before a Justice of the Peace in January last, which was, I believe, that Geo. L. Raymond, taken his son, William Hoyt, to the United States and sold him into slavery. Affidavit was transmitted to the Sheriff on the tenth day of January and on the 20th of the same month communication was received by the Sheriff acknowledging the receipt of the money, and stating "that the matter transmitted to his Excellency the late Governor, and by him referred to the Attorney General to report upon what his (the Attorney General's) Report was made, it would be referred to the Justice. Since then I have heard from the Government in reference to the charge.

Why was not the charge immediately, and Geo. L. Raymond, cleared of the odious imputation of trafficking in human flesh? Is Henry Hoyt a poor man to be sold and wearing a black skin, is refused him? Or is it owing to L. Raymond's superior position or to his unwavering devotion to his Administration, that he is not the charge of poor Hoyt? It is true that George L. Raymond is a potent politician. It is also true that he has not been overthrown by power. Not only has he been Justice of the Peace of this County, but he has been Commissioner of the Peace (not enough of late), but he has a few days previous to his visit received the appointment of Clerk, for taking Special Bail in Court, an office that was held by a gentleman, who was fully capable of it, — a man, too, of less than whom no one, but a few seekers after office, might have dared say might have dared say might have dared happened to be of a different stripe from the ruling power, they pretended that the duty of office require a greater number to attend to them, and that George L. Raymond, of negro appointment thereto, by this means depriving an old and estimable of a large portion of the emolument he had heretofore obtained for performance of his duties.

Still even if George L. Raymond favored son of the "poverty's" ought not to prevent an investigation of the matter. The sent in due form and from the authority, and should not have carelessly to one side. Never seen or heard of a charge of nature so recklessly dealt with, tempt to trammel justice, through either political or personal, hooded at by all men who pride in being British subjects. N. The Government quietly stigmata of having allowed unannounced such a charge, and it is with circumstances so or that attributed to George L. Our citizens have left undone justice might be had, as it is unquestionably should constitute of all lovers of justice country's honor. A public held, a report of which was the facts elicited there, Raymond's own mouth, — were sure as would lead the person to believe that a great been perpetrated, and that it is ingly doubtful as to William colored boys) whereabouts, current reports were not vague. Last week, I noticed many of your paper, a report before Justice Harding, of brought by Henry Hoyt's son, William, and also that Hoyt's verdict for the amount of cost. Raymond's own evidence to that report, proved, be that he was a party in the