

worthy of notice, were not such sentiments quoted with tacit approval by one of the leading dailies of the capital of Ontario. As it is, it is enough to disgust any physician with the endeavour to practice his profession honestly, and maintain it pure and unsullied in the position it ought to occupy for the good of humanity.

A NEW LIQUOR ERGOTÆ.

From an article in the *Canadian Pharmaceutical Journal*, by Edward Long, M.R.C.S., it would appear that a new preparation of ergot is likely soon to be brought under the notices of the profession. The writer thinks that glycerine will make a better solvent and preservative of the actual principles of ergot than the menstrua generally used in the tincture, infusion or liquid extract, and that this preparation will also be more pleasant to the palate. The following paragraph gives the method of making the preparation:—"I digested ergot, freshly powdered, in glycerine, for ten days, frequently shaking it. On straining this off, it was found to be of a deep purplish color, as thick as treacle nearly, and the marc quite soft and pulpy. This marc was then digested in spirit for ten days more, pressed off and filtered, the resulting tincture distilled off till it became of the consistence of syrup, and then added to the previous solution. The 'fluid extract' formed of these combined solutions, I find to be exactly equal to the volume of glycerine employed, and each drachm represents half a drachm of powdered ergot, and may be considered a dose."

We think a drop or two of chloroform added to each ounce of either this or the old fluid extract would render it more acceptable to the stomach, and while we are on this subject, we may say that for a good many years we have used the fluid extract very largely, instead of the old powder or infusion, and that it very seldom disappoints us.

"LO THE POOR HEATHEN!" WHICH?

A few months ago, a lady of this city having been for some time under the care of Dr. Beaumont, had occasion to visit Ireland, and the Dr. gave her a letter, detailing the nature of her disease, the treatment pursued, and his views generally on the case. On reaching her destination, she presented the letter to an eminent oculist of Dublin, who expressed the greatest possible surprise, at the existence of so much learning and professional ability, in such a wild backwoods place as Toronto.

OUR STUDENTS ABROAD.

We are glad to see from an English paper, that our Students are doing credit to their Canadian instruction, before the Licensing Bodies of the Mother Country. The following names appear among the successful candidates for the diploma of the Royal College of Surgeons, England, on the 28th January, 1870:—

Buller, Frank, M.D., Victoria University.
Burdett, David Earl, M.B., Toronto University.
Wade, Wm., M.D., Victoria do. and New York.
Widdifield, J. Henry, M.D., do.

WHAT IS ECLECTICISM?

We clip the following definition of Eclecticism from the *Chicago Medical Times*. For ourselves, we do not know enough of that particular *ism* to say whether it is correct or not, but in the name of the Regular Profession, we protest most strongly against such a gross misrepresentation of our pathology; so gross, indeed, that it requires a strong exercise of that most excellent gift of charity to believe it other than wilful.

"Eclecticism is that system of medicine based upon the special pathological deduction, 'disease, an impairment of vitality,' and correlatively demands a conservation of the vital forces, and that all therapeutic measures should be expressly directed thereto. It is diametrically opposed to the old school practice which has persistently taught for years that disease is an excess of vitality, and that every effort should be made to break it down, and antiphlogistics were the inevitable resort, *premier* and *dernier*; in fact, that disease was vitality exalted to a sort of hypothetical phlogiston, that had taken possession of the body surreptitiously, and—must be put out, hence allopathy, from the *Great* *allos*, other, and *pathos*, morbid condition, attempting to correct one morbid condition by introducing or substituting another, driving out a bad tenant by putting in, perhaps, a worse one, hence mercurialization, premising that the terrible enemy was entrenched in the blood, therefore it must be drawn out, hence phlebotomy."

"Such were the principles that carried the old school profession, body and soul, like a hurricane, from the time of Paracelsus, onwards, but, sad to reflect, fell like continuous simooms upon their patients with fearful fatality."

"Eclecticism seeks to build up, strengthen and support, aiding in every possible way the natural vital powers of the system to overcome disease. Allopathy depletes, debilitates and exhausts the *vis medicatrix nature*, in its blind endeavors to rid the body of one affection by substituting another."

THE LANCET SAYS:—

"The Queen has been suffering repeatedly during the past three months from neuralgia, affecting different parts of the body, and severe enough to not."