

The great majority of private schools is said not to be averse to such inspection; and, on those who object to it, the certainty of being shown to themselves, or, more effective still, to their neighbors, as others see them, would be likely to act as a stimulating discipline in the direction of improvement. Such a change, however, to be workable must have the support of intelligent public opinion; and thus—indirectly, it may be, but, nevertheless, substantially—the motive-power must come from the parents themselves. If only they can be made to realize the facts as they are, few of them will fail to see the advantages—national, social and pecuniary—of such a plan. Not the least significant argument in its favor might be deduced from the statement of one of Dr. Duke's critics (himself a teacher), who stated that the scheme proposed was totally impracticable, inasmuch as, in relation to such a question, 'the phase of the body is diametrically opposed to the phase of the mind.' True education recognizes no such irreconcilable opposition between the two sides of the dual nature, with both of which it has to deal for the true welfare of the human whole."

EDITORIAL NOTES.

A writ has been issued against Dr. Pyne and the College of Physicians and Surgeons for \$95,000, by Jacob Zielinski, of Toronto, on account of the refusal of the College to register his name as a practising physician.

In reference to Dr. Dowsley's interesting article upon the use of diphtheria antitoxine, it would seem as if from the dosage, the results were not altogether due to the antitoxine. We believe that most of the antitoxine serum used up to the present time has been horse serum, prepared according to the method of Roux, of Paris. Roux hitherto has found it necessary to use, at least, twenty cubic centimetres, and frequently as much as fifty cubic centimetres, to effect a cure.

"What is your vision?" Thank you, ours is sufficiently keen to see through the various circulars sent to a number of physicians in town by the Philadelphia Optical Company. The circular, coming first, seems as if prepared more particularly for the benefit of the public generally, and is arranged with *pretty pictures*, as to how to see it, and how you don't. If looked into with a careful eye it will be observed that the last two leaves are fastened together. Why?

The Medical Faculty of the University of Toronto being desirous of encouraging the study of the history of medicine, have arranged for a course of lectures on "Ancient Medicine and Medicine in the Middle Ages," to be delivered during the present session. The inaugural lecture of the course was delivered by Prof. R. Ramsay Wright, in the University Biological Department, on Tuesday, January 8th. The lectures will be continued every Tuesday evening until March 12th. Prof. Wright, took for his subject, "Mythical Medicine and the Worship of Æsculapius."

British Columbia.

Under control of the Medical Council of the Province of British Columbia.

DR. MCGUIGAN, Associate Editor for British Columbia.

NEW WESTMINSTER INSANE ASYLUM SCANDAL.

Within the limits of the old capital of British Columbia, on the gentle declivity of a hill overlooking the Fraser, with the snow-capped summit of Mount Baker on the southern horizon, stands the asylum for the insane, with its hundreds of unfortunate inmates. To the superficial gaze of the passer-by everything seemed to be conducted in the most approved modern fashion, and the treatment of the patients to be regulated in harmony with the latest methods in the treatment of persons afflicted with mental disease. But the revelations brought to the light of day by the late commission appointed by the Provincial Government, have tended to astound the public mind, and to lay bare a condition of things that would have been more timely a hundred years ago than now; and which have resulted in the suspension of the medical superintendent from his official duties. Before the days of Franklin and Pinel, lunatics were treated, or rather mistreated, in a manner the details of which, when related, make the blood run cold; but we console ourselves with reflection that the days of such barbarities are now over never to return.

When Pinel, in 1792, released fifty-three patients at Bicêtre, from the chains in which they were bound, the modern treatment of the insane began, and throughout the civilized world to day these most afflicted of God's creatures are looked upon