

keep him supplied with *authentic* information on "Medical matters in Canada."

*Medical Board for the District of Montreal.*—At the August quarterly meeting of this board, the following gentlemen received, after examination, their certificates of license to practice.

As Physicians, Surgeons, and Accoucheurs,  
 Thomas Wallace,  
 R. Hunter,  
 G. Duguay.  
 As Apothecary, Chemist, and Druggist,  
 M. Parkin.

### LETTER III.

*To the Editors of the British American Journal.*

GENTLEMEN,—I think I have already adduced presumptive evidence of some weight relative to the nature of the cause of our present debasement as members of one of the liberal professions. But we are furnished with examples on every hand of the advantages that result from a prevailing spirit of concord among individuals engaged in the same pursuit, and who have one common interest to protect and sustain.

That famous watch word, "union is strength," has served as a rallying cry of the oppressed from time immemorial. At the present period, and especially in countries where the representative form of Government exists, the dictates of that aphorism, when fully carried out, have been found to produce moral effects not inferior to their physical influence in past times. Let us notice briefly a few familiar instances. The politician, individually a mere cypher, unites himself with others entertaining opinions similar to his own, when straightway he becomes powerful. The teachers of our religious faith, one and all, inculcate the doctrine that "the labourer is worthy of his hire;" the cry "give us our daily bread," is repeated and made to ring its various changes upon the minds of the multitude until their just demands are granted. The Lawyer, as I have already shown, forms a strong bond of union with his fellows, and obtains, with little labour or trouble, all that he asks for. The union of a few British philanthropists produced the abolition of slavery throughout the empire in spite of a most powerful opposition, and at a cost to the British nation of an incredible sum of money. Catholic emancipation, and parliamentary reform, were both results of a union of parties having these objects in view. And the recent repeal of the corn laws in England, affords another and yet more remarkable example of the wondrous working power of union when followed by energetic action. Shall we then, with examples such as these before us, with incentives to exertion as strong as any of the cases

here cited could furnish, remain always irresolute, always divided? Shall the darling interests and hostile prejudices of rival schools, and political partisans, in one section of the Province, and the absurd pretensions of a few disciples of a quasi privileged institution situated in another hemisphere of the other, be permitted always to control the movements of the great body of the profession? Shall we continue to present to the world the spectacle of a body of men ever complaining of the wrongs they suffer, yet so divided in their councils, so torn by internal dissension, as not to be able to agree upon any rational plan of action for the removal of those wrongs? I cannot believe that the existence of such a state of things can be felt and acknowledged without an effort to overcome it. It is impossible that among the one thousand educated and intelligent gentlemen, who represent the profession in this colony, a sufficient number cannot be found who, seeing and feeling the manifold evils that time and circumstances have inflicted upon them, are willing, nay, anxious to remove them, and by one strong united and well directed effort to place themselves on a level with their contemporaries. That most efficacious of all provocatives, public ridicule will force this alternative upon them if their own interests and honor should fail to do so.

It is not to the metropolitan portion of the profession that we are to look for the power by which this great object is to be attained, it is the force of numbers alone that can effect it. A system of organization must be adopted that will extend itself over the whole province, from Sandwich to Gaspé. From all the towns and villages invitations should go forth from societies or influential individuals, to every licensed practitioner within the limits of each district, to assist with his advice and influence in furthering the grand object, and let it be proclaimed that the object embraces *protection for ourselves, an elevated standard of education for the rising generation, and nothing more!*

The Medico-Chirurgical Society of Toronto have thought proper to take the initiative in this matter, and I have every reason to believe that they are influenced by a sincere desire to do what is right, but there is one objection that applies to them as well as to our friends at Montreal; they are not sufficiently acquainted with the real wants of the country practitioner, and it is this overworked, ill paid, but most meritorious portion of the profession who stand most in need of protection. The country practitioner has been made the tool, I am sorry to say, of his citizen confrere on more occasions than one, but he has been taught, I should hope, by experience, to acknowledge the folly of such passiveness. If the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Toronto or Montreal, or