

the public, it would be better to let them alone, or quietly to insinuate that they are our best friends,

"Since there's nothing so likely as quacks, it is plain, To make work for the regular doctors again."

"The Doctor then went on to show, by statistics and otherwise, that Homoeopathy, instead of being on the increase, was actually on the decline, and quoted from a German Homoeopathic journal to the effect that there was a great lack of Homoeopathic recruits there, and that at the present rate of decline their ranks would be sufficiently thinned to prevent them from presenting a distinct front to the world; that the same article went on to say that, of course there were always a few that joined their ranks from the old school, but of those they took no account, as they were generally driven to this step by loss of practice or character from some individual faults, and took up Homoeopathy as a *façon* hope or *dernier resort*. 'In Hamilton,' said the Doctor, 'we cannot gainsay the truth of the latter remark.'

"The injustice of compelling medical men to give professional evidence in criminal prosecutions without any remuneration, was then adverted to, and it was argued that the profession should take a decided step in the matter and refuse to give such evidence till paid for it. 'It has been given on good legal authority that a subpoena does not require a statement of opinion, but only of facts as an ordinary witness, unless paid for.'"

[The address occupies over two columns in the *Hamilton Times*.]

ST. CATHERINES MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

Our Medical brethren in St. Catharines have just organized a Medical Association. It is intended to hold monthly meetings at which a paper will be read and discussed. The following is a list of the officers:

- President.....A. Jukes, M.B.
- Vice-President.....Dr. T. Clarke.
- Secretary.....J. Alexander, M.D.
- Treasurer.....Lucius Oille, M.D.

We always rejoice to hear of the formation of such Societies, tending as they do to promote an *esprit de corps*, in the locality. We shall be glad to get short reports of their proceedings.

The medical section of the Canadian Institute met on Friday evening, the 18th inst., when Dr. Agnew read a paper on relapsing fever, from Dr. James O'Dea, formerly of this city, but now of New York. A lively discussion followed, and the meeting directed the paper to be given to the editors of the *Dominion Medical Journal* for publication.

A hearty vote of thanks was given to our old fellow-townsmen and the meeting adjourned. [Dr. O'Dea's paper will appear in our next number.]

Miscellaneous, &c.

Infant Mortality.

The truth is, the chief cause of infantile mortality is not more the weather, or foul air, than the ignorance and false pride of the mothers. Children are killed by the manner in which they are dressed, and by the food that is given them, as much as by any other causes. Infants of the most tender age, in our changeable and rough climate, are left with bare arms and legs, and with low-neck dresses. The mothers, in the same dress, would shiver and suffer with cold, and expect a fit of sickness as the result of their culpable carelessness. And yet the mothers could endure such a treatment with far less danger to health and life than their tender infants.

A moment's reflection will indicate the effects of this mode of dressing, or want of dressing, on the child. The moment the cold air strikes the bare arms and legs of the child, the blood is driven from these extremities to the internal and more vital organs of the body. The result is congestion, to a greater or less extent, of these organs. In warm weather, the effect will be congestion of the bowels, causing diarrhoea, dysentery, or cholera infantum. We think that this mode of dressing must be reckoned as one of the most prominent causes of summer complaints, so-called. In colder weather, congestion and inflammation of the lungs, congestion and inflammation of the brain, convulsions, &c., will result. At all seasons, congestion, more or less, is caused, the definite effects depending upon the constitution of the child, the weather, and various other circumstances.

It is painful, extremely so, to any one who reflects upon the subject, to see children thus decked like victims for sacrifice, to gratify the insane pride of foolish mothers. Our most earnest advice to all mothers is, to dress the legs and arms of their children warmly, at all events. It would be infinitely less dangerous to life and health to leave their bodies uncovered, than to leave their arms and legs bare as is the common custom.—*Medical and Surgical Reporter*.—*American Eclectic Medical Review*.

Peritonitis and Perforation of the Vermiform Appendage.

Some time ago, we saw a lad under the care of Dr. H. H. Wright, in whom, during apparent convalescence from peritonitis, the symptoms of perforation became suddenly manifest, and rapid sinking and death followed. A post mortem revealed perforation of the vermiform appendage, with a considerable glueing together of the col-vc-