

A joint committee, representing the Board of the College of Pharmacy and the Council of the Pharmaceutical Association, has been appointed to discuss the propriety of extending the major examinations to practical chemistry, especially analysis. The members of the Association are divided on the question, quite a number thinking the examinations are severe enough for the duties to be performed by the ordinary pharmacist, who, if he requires anything, it is more commercial knowledge, while others go to the opposite extreme and clamor for a higher scientific standard.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Correspondence is invited from all members of the profession. We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions of correspondents. All communications must have the name of the writer attached, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. Any name de plume may be used for publication. Write only on one side of the paper, and be concise.

Old Timer Again Gives His Views

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—In my letter in January last I rashly promised to write you upon College matters "when the muse was again on me." The past hot weather has not been propitious for a sustained attack, and lest the effervescent premonitory symptoms vanish, I will commit them to paper.

Now, in my last, I tried to show how the wily spider, "Uriah Heap," attempted unsuccessfully to beguile the fly (the Council) into the meshes of a dangerous law-suit, the result of which was exceedingly doubtful, with the T. Eaton Co., (limited). And how the fly had dexterously taken the bait and had got away with it in safety, to its own glory and to the consternation and confusion of the spider.

The incentive of the spider to work to destroy the Council is only whetted by failures, which tend to magnify, "in his mind," his past influence, in contrast with his present. The thought absorbs his whole being, "his reverie by day and his dreams by night." He lives for it—and never forgets that the pace of the spider like that of the tortoise is slow, and, "given time and distance," will generally outpace the fly. The last web he set for his chosen enemy worked like a charm. The scheme was this, to coax, banter, or frighten the Council into publishing to the world the recent amendments to the Pharmacy Act, professedly in the interests of the druggists and the general public, but really in the interests of his friends, the patent medicine makers and a wholesale druggist. He began in October by urging Mr. Petrie to produce the amendments for the public to see.

In November he wrote, "We believe every druggist as well as every citizen of Ontario should have ample opportunity of freely discussing legislation which is ostensibly in the interests of all."

In December he accused the Council of designedly withholding the amendments

from the public, and much more of the same. But this is sufficient to prove my point, namely, that Uriah, the Spider, was laying the web to catch the wary fly.

Whoever before heard of any Council, even those bossed by Uriah up to 1888, or whoever heard of doctors, lawyers, or other professions publishing to the world their intended legislation weeks and months before it was to come before the Legislature, especially where they had a wealthy, unscrupulous opponent watching them.

But Uriah knew that his reasons for publishing the amendments sounded honest, above board, and plausible, and that the public, who were not inside, would applaud.

Yet the cards they were stacked

In a way that I grieve,

And my feelings were shocked

At the state of Heap's sleeve,

Which was stuffed full of aces and bowers,

Which the same I will try to explain.

And when at last the Council yielded to the pressure and published the amendments to the world, then, for the first time in five years, Uriah mellowed and grew pathetic towards his opponents, for his scheme was working, and in April he wrote, "Hard knocks have been given possibly by both sides. We can bear any amount of ill usage and still come up smiling." And in the solitude of his own parlor he was heard singing to the accompaniment of his banjo that soliloquy from Faust up to date, where the devil sings:

"I've got him, yes I've got him,

If I hav'nt got him now

I'll have him bye and by."

Then it was that the patent medicine people met in Toronto and circulated the general stores, members of Parliament and newspapers, threatening them if they didn't jump on that Pharmacy Bill, to withdraw their advertising. What a potent lever is the almighty dollar? and how nobly they all responded. Then it was that the meshes began to close around the hitherto gay, successful and boastful fly. My, how that fly did kick and struggle. No tanglefoot could have held him. He would have escaped sound in wind and limb, but for the friend of Pink Pills and Morse's Pills, who in return for services rendered, took advantage of the fanaticism and panic caused among the back woods' members by the circulars, to steal in by an underground passage and deal the fly (sitting breathless and exhausted from his severe exertions) a fatal stab.

The fly's friends claim that it is only a case of suspended animation, that a year hence they will have him in better shape than ever to kick to pieces any web that Uriah may weave.

In the meantime Uriah and his friends have been drunk with exultation and slumbered. While his ceaseless, tireless opponents have fixed the elections for members of the Council, so that Uriah has only one patent medicine friend and two quasi friends on a Council of thirteen, and they have chosen as president—his most hated opponent.

Again he is alert and awake, his eyes glow and glower in his skull like fireflies, at the result. He is resourceful and will start out on the hunt for means to undo all this. We may look for his customary method to win over and catch the "new flies" on the Council, by beslobbering them with honey. By attributing to their every word and act at the board the greatest wisdom and sagacity, and by bullying, abusing and belittling every one not on his side. Or will he adopt some other stratagem not so chestnuty? We will watch and wait developments in this game of check with an interest that grows as we feed.

And still the *Pharmaceutical Journal* is the organ of the College, and every druggist must pay his dollar per year for it.

Very respectfully,

OLD TIMER.

Summer Specialities.

PETER BOA.

There was a time when holidays were not so general nor of so long duration as they are now. Then the few who travelled for the purpose of sport or change of air found, whenever they left the larger towns, that few arrangements existed for their reception and comfort. They had, indeed, to rough it when they wandered beyond the limits of the then restricted path which could be called beaten, and any comforts and conveniences that were thought necessary had to be taken with them because they were not obtainable where they went.

A later time came on, when travelers became more numerous, and the remunerative possibilities of hospitality began to dawn on the inhabitants of frequented places; traders then commenced to stock the special manufactures which were in request by the visitors, so that it became possible for them to purchase their favorite specialities on the spot, and so save themselves the trouble of carrying them from home.

A third epoch was gradually evolved, when everyone took a period of relaxation, short or long, and the summer visitor became a recognized part of the social and business existence of almost every place, inland or seaside, away from the great centers, that possess any attractions in the way of scenery, sea-bathing, mineral wells, mountain air, angling, sketching, or facilities for yachting.

The country trader endeavors to supply these summer visitors, so far as he can, with articles of his own manufacture or putting up. This applies to all sorts of businesses. The keen competition in trade makes a man desirous of securing as much control as possible of any article for which he may create a demand in his district. If he push someone else's article he would most likely find that one or more of his competitors would get it into stock, and probably "cut" it as soon as he had popularized it. The manufacturer, and not he, gets the benefit of the in-