

logical precision and philosophical temper an important question, bearing intimately upon the advancement of a noble and too frequently discouraged science.

For one piece of information, however, we have to thank our contemporary,—we allude to his notice of the Act 7 Vict., Cap.5, of the existence of which we unblushingly avow our ignorance:—an ignorance participated in by many of our professional brethren to whom we have spoken on the subject. And as we believe that few medical men in the Province are aware of the provisions of this statute, we reprint it for general information.

In fine, we say, that if our contemporary would put aside his evident dislike of our existence, and labour with us fraternally in the common cause for the common good, we will cheerfully render our aid in advancing professional knowledge and sustaining professional rights; but if he continues to manifest this spirit, and to wield the editorial pen only for its gratification, we shall abstain from recognizing his right to be considered a professional organ. The world is wide enough for us both, nor will his opposition either affect our progress or damp our ardour.

THE ANATOMY ACT.

It certainly never occurred to the writer of this article to search the Statutes for the Act now published, the existence of which we never heard mentioned by any of our professional brethren, although the necessity for some such measure was very freely canvassed at the time of the occurrences, the discussion of which in the British American Journal has had the effect of bringing it to light. We have carefully perused it, and must acknowledge that it seems sufficient to accomplish all that is requisite for the purposes contemplated. But it is not the mere fact of the existence of an Act of Parliament,—it is not the care with which its phraseology is constructed, which makes it either a good or a useful Act. How many Statutes lie mouldering in the folios in which they have been bound, for years, as useless as the paper on which they are printed,—perfectly inoperative; not always from any defect in themselves, but simply because those who are duly appointed to administer them,—the executive agents of legislative authority,—are either ignorant of their existence, of powers conferred by them, or the obligations they impose. Or it may be, that this inutility arises equally from the ignorance or apathy of those whose interests these very laws are intended to subserve. That this particular Act, 7 Victoria, cap. 5, is in the position of a dead letter as far as Upper Canada is concerned, from all these causes, will be apparent by a perusal of the third