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British Columbia.

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

DR. MCGUIGAN, Associate Editor for British Columbia.

ABETTING QUACKERY.

On taking leave of our friends last winter in Ontario and the Eastern States, to return to British Columbia, many of them sympathised with us and felt sad at seeing us once more turn our faces towards the wild and woolly west. One worthy clergyman, on saying good-bye, remarked, "Doctor, after all that has been said of your fair Province, you must admit that it is on the rim of civilization, and you are so far away from the centre that anything new or fresh does not reach you for months after it appears here." There never was a greater mistake made than the one which credits the coast cities of this Province with being behind the times or in the rear of the march of civilization. Comparing Victoria and Vancouver with the cities of the East—barring the larger centres of population—the conclusion is inevitable that the latter "are not in it," to use a colloquialism. But while we say this we are prepared to give them credit for what is due them, and will not hesitate to censure things at home which appear to us amiss. For example, the official recognition of quacks and fakirs is something that the mayors of Toronto, Hamilton, or London would not be guilty of; nor the police magistrates of Stratford or Windsor. But Vancouver's mayor and police magistrate are not ashamed to append their names to a glowing encomium of an admitted quack, the object of which is to humbug the public and lead honest men and women astray. Even at the risk of

encroaching on valuable space we must quote in full the following advertisement from the *World of Vancouver* :

"PROF. ZIMMER, Herbalist, 110 Abbott Street,
"Vancouver, B.C.

"Read what Prominent Citizens have to say concerning his wonderful curative abilities :

"We, the undersigned, are well acquainted with Professor Zimmer, who lives at No. 110 Abbott Street, and know him to be all that he represents himself as an Herbalist, and we recommend him to the public. He was at one time a hide-dealer in Ontario. President Lincoln was at one time a rail-splitter. They both studied on the quiet. Some gentlemen asked the Professor one day, 'Why did you squander thirty thousand dollars in the East and the Old Country?' The old gentleman replied : 'To get experience.' The next question of his friend was : 'What did you spend five thousand dollars in Vancouver for? Would it not have been better to have taken that money and printed your testimonials by the thousand and sent them all over the world? Then you would have been a millionaire to-day.' The old gentleman replied : 'I cannot eat money, and out of that five thousand dollars I had a lot of pleasure.' That is just his nature. He does not claim to be a physician in any sense of the term, and, though often solicited, never visits a patient; but he believes in the curative virtues of herbs, roots, bark and berries, and is an Herbalist and Botanist.

"Further, he says thousands of people die and the doctors are blamed for it, when they have been suffering from constipation for four or five days before going to a doctor, and then it is too late. Professor Zimmer has made a statement to the House of what he has done since his establishment here six years ago, and this was signed by the most influential citizens of Vancouver. His experience was acquired by quietly working for nineteen years in the East, and to-day he guarantees the richest people in Vancouver as his bail, to return the money to those of his patients in British Columbia, or elsewhere, who are not cured by means of his herbs, roots, barks and berries (which are God's own medicine).

"The Professor, since his arrival in Vancouver, has wrought wonderful cures with his herbs and system of treatment. Already he has in his possession testimonials from hundreds attesting the wonderful curative powers possessed by the herbs, which he prescribes for suffering and afflicted humanity as an antidote to their ailments.

"The Professor has travelled much and seen a great deal of the world in sunshine and shade. He is in every respect a perfect gentleman, kind-