

to say, the bait was taken, the cat despatched without leave or licence; but what occurred on his being surrounded by the boys, shouting and glorying in their mischief, I dare not relate—but from that time he retired from conjuring.

There is another class of miracle-makers which promises a more permanent existence in society: these are the quack doctors. These gentlemen have the advantage of all other classes of supers. When a man is in pain from disease, he has not to refer to any kind of casuistry about his affliction, for he feels quite conscious of its being a reality, as he has once been in health. However, he hopes and believes he may be restored to it again; but the cause of his sufferings is latent, he has no way of ascertaining either the cause or the cure of his complaint, and perhaps some skillful physician fears that even he can discover neither the one nor the other. But fortunately for the sick, the helpless, the hopeless man, there arrives opportunely a quack doctor, who knows a little more than everything, and he certainly can divine what is the matter. He declares upon his honor that his success shall be equal to his knowledge. "Well—but," says the invalid, "how can I trust myself in the hands of an adventurer, who may take my money, and ruin my already undermined constitution?" "Ah!" cries one of his neighbours, "no fear of that—for this man cures every thing!—he has already cured, or at least done a power of good to a crowd of patients,—indeed he is getting into such repute that no person has the least doubt of being 'made whole,' though he may have one foot in the grave and the other in the" * * "Well," replies the poor fellow, "a drowning man will catch at a straw. I have no other hope—I will try what he can do for me. My money is nothing compared to my health—bring the gentleman here." Well, here he comes, and there he goes; and he has gulled another poor creature out of his money and his remaining stock of health, and soured his last moments by discovering to him the baseness of his fellow man. Happily these things are too glaring for the enlightened part of mankind. Happy for the city of Halifax, that its inhabitants have been so enlightened by libraries, &c., that if Galen, the prince of physicians, were to come and profess to cure the gout, spigo, and the rheum, together with the loss of sight, hearing and smelling, and all the complicated disorders that can endanger *health and life*, he would find no fool in Halifax to give four or five pounds per week for his trouble.

Before we close "our drawer" for the present, let us return for a brief moment to the realms of poetry. Here is a little Serenade we received too late for insertion in our previous columns. Listen, ye who love to gaze upon the soft star of evening, to hear the murmuring of the midnight breezes, to

A LOVER'S SIMILE.

WAKE, lady, wake—

The stars are above thee;

Till the dawn break,

Hear how I love thee.

Wert thou the light,

From yon star beaming,

In the still night,

O'er hill and dale streaming,

I'd be yon silver tide,

Beneath thee flowing,

Kiss'd by thy beams to glide,

Hill, dale, and wood beside,

While like a jewell'd bride

Thou shouldst be glowing.

And such our lot,

Such fate's revealing—

For is there not,

Through this heart stealing,

A stream which would be

All darksome and cheerless,

Wer't not for thee,

Thou star bright and peerless?

Oh! star of evening!—star

Beaming all lonely,

Not on the stream afar

Shineth another star,

But thou my dearest star

Lighest it only!

HALIFAX LITERARY SOCIETY.—On Thursday, 17th, Rev. Mr. Knowlan delivered a pleasing lecture on Education. On the 24th, the debate on the question whether a repeal of the Irish Union would be beneficial to the empire, was concluded. We have received a lengthy commentary on the discussion from a member,—but too late for insertion. The question was decided in the negative, by the casting vote of the President.

CONTRIBUTIONS.—The drollery of the poetical sketch, "The Scotch Emigrant," is irresistible. It is written by a gentleman whose well known poetical talents render further remark unnecessary. We shall comply with W's request in future numbers.