

CANADA

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PHYSIOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE.

We have received a circular, and have also seen in some of the daily papers the announcement of the formation of the "Society for the Diffusion of Physiological Knowledge of Canada." From its title it might be supposed that the object of this Association was to encourage the teaching of elementary physiology and biology in schools and colleges—to institute courses of popular lectures on these important subjects in the various towns and cities, &c. Not so, however, for we find that the object, as stated in its prospectus, is to scatter broadcast throughout Canada pamphlets and tracts concerning the ill effects following upon what is known as the secret evil. Any well-directed effort in this direction would have been sure to meet with the cordial co-operation of the medical profession throughout the country, but we think there are the best of reasons why the names of physicians are conspicuous by their absence in the published list of members. It is but a short time since we drew attention to the proceedings of the Quebec Provincial Medical Board, in which the Medical Director of the concern whose title is given above was the subject of very severe remarks on the part of several prominent members. The occasion was a discussion on the propriety of any individual circulating such tracts as are here spoken of. The views then expressed are those of the whole profession. They do not believe that a good end is to be served by this process, but rather that it is constantly open to great abuse. A noticeable feature of the Society is the predominance of the clerical