

# MEDICAL CRITICISM.

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2ND SERIES.

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The Emperor Nero is said to have occupied himself in fiddling while Rome was burning; modern society appears to occupy itself after a similar fashion, in relation to the sickness and death which are ever stalking abroad among its nearest and dearest; it allows its several parliaments to commit irresponsible power to men who prove themselves utterly incompetent to grapple with the ills which flesh inherits, and who at the same time are so enslaved by their traditional crazes, that if anyone attempt to enlighten them, they echo the argument of those teachers of old, which took the form of "Thou wast altogether born in sins, and dost thou teach us?"

While the Rev. Mr. Talmage was recently availing himself of a period of relaxation, he considered it necessary to consult a doctor. The doctor did not know who his patient was; a long consultation therefore resulted in the rev. gentleman being gravely advised to *exercise his lungs*.

## ELECTRICITY SKILFULLY APPLIED.

A gentleman, now residing in Toronto, was at one time, a sufferer from organic disease of the heart, from paralysis, and from chronic dyspepsia; he not only put the supposed skill of the medical faculty of Toronto to the test, in relation to his disordered condition, but went from thence successively to Montreal, to Anglican London, to Paris\*, to Boston, U.S., to New York, and to Chicago, in quest of men who might afford him relief. The only result of this gentleman's travels was that he "suffered many things of many physicians," and was so far from being "bettered," that he returned to this continent in order to die; he had found his way to Burlington, Iowa, and while at an hotel, a seedy looking man approached him, and told him what was the matter with him, and stated that he could effect some amendment in his case in eight days, and could cure him in three weeks. This person may be styled "a quack," if it be any satisfaction to apply such a designation to him, but he disclosed both his theory and practice to the sufferer, and fulfilled his undertaking to such an extent, that his patient was greatly improved in three weeks, and ultimately recovered; he taught him also to benefit others in like manner. It is but right to add that the sufferer had previously prayed that he might speedily die, or that he might discover a means of recovery.

\* In this city, the sufferer was in such a state of despondency that he did not seek medical aid.

An old resident of Toronto states that of fifty persons who, in his recollection, sold liquor on King Street, not one of them has at the present time, a lineal descendant.