

of cinchonidia, which is procurable in abundance from red bark. Several practitioners both in this city and the surrounding country are now using the sulphate of cinchonidia instead of quinine, and all bear testimony to its reliability and efficacy in the treatment of all cases in which quinine was formerly used.

THE ONTARIO MEDICAL COUNCIL.

In another column will be seen a notice to the effect that the legal counsel, to whom the case was referred, have decided that Dr. Geikie is entitled to his seat as the legally elected representative of Trinity Medical School. The unwarranted and high-handed proceeding of the Council at its late meeting, which resulted in the illegal exclusion of Dr. Geikie, is probably without a parallel in the history of any similarly constituted body. It also shows more forcibly than anything else the corrupt state into which a corporate body may fall by reason of a prolonged term of office. The Council as at present constituted, is almost entirely in the hands of the schoolmen, the territorial representatives being completely overpowered. The schoolmen, with the aid of the homœopaths and eclectics can, and do, carry everything their own way.

We all know how persistently the Council set the well understood wishes of the profession at defiance in the matter of the constitution of the examining board, and in other matters. This would never have occurred and continued so long had it not been for the long term of office enjoyed under the five year clause—and the powerlessness of the territorial representatives, although several of the latter, notably Drs. Allison and Hyde fought valiantly in the interests of the profession. The only remedy is an increase of the territorial representatives, so as to give each division two members instead of one. The only possible objection to increased representation, is the increased expense which it would entail. This is, however, not so great an objection as would appear at first sight. The five eclectics, now representatives at large, cease after 1879, so that there would, in reality, be added only seven more than at present. There are about 1,500 medical men in the Province of Ontario, and these are represented in the Council by only 12 members, while the colleges and teach-

ing bodies have eight, the homœopaths five, and the eclectics five. As the latter have merged in the general profession, we propose to give this representation to the general body—and by giving two members to each territorial division, we proportionately increase the representation, and will thereby bring the outside profession more in harmony with the Council. We have no doubt that certain members of the Council will oppose any reform in the direction indicated, as of course it would interfere with their little game—monopoly, but that is only the greater reason why the profession should take the matter into its own hands.

HYDROBROMIC ACID.—This new and popular remedy is now coming into extensive use as a substitute for bromide of potassium, combining all the qualities of that salt without any of its unpleasant effects. It is produced by the decomposition of bromide of potassium and tartaric acid. When given in combination with quinine (which readily dissolves in it) the tendency of the quinine to produce headache is entirely prevented. This is a valuable piece of information to practitioners having patients to whom the administration of quinine was impracticable for that reason, and this alone should recommend its use instead of the mineral acids as a solvent of quinine. Dr. Fothergill who appears to have devoted much time to its study, recommends its use in combination with quinine and digitalis in forms of excited action of the heart, connected with general nervous excitability or nervous exhaustion. He claims better results from the use of the acid than from bromide of potassium. It has been used with success in whooping cough and also in combination with other remedies in cough mixtures to allay troublesome coughs. In many other affections such as gastrodynia in combination with quinine it is useful, also to check the vomiting of pregnancy, and in hemorrhagia associated with excessive sexual excitement. The dose of the acid (as usually diluted) is from thirty to sixty minims, which we quote from the label of a specimen bottle sent us by Messrs. Kenneth Campbell & Co., of Montreal. The profession will not be slow to avail itself of the services of so valuable a drug.

CHRY SOPHANIC ACID IN PSORIASIS.—Dr. Whipman of St. George's Hospital, London, Eng., (*Med.*