

charge of the affairs of the profession but that possesses no power to effect it.

We are told of the good accomplished by the present College. We would like to hear of the benefits we owe it. The College can do no good or no harm, as it is impotent. The harm that it does is purely negative, because it can only prevent the good to be accomplished. But that is a good deal. Better to commit suicide under these circumstances for then—

"Life is a disgrace  
And death a duty."

We will allow for a handsome epitaph on the monument that will remind future generations of the good that the medical profession derived from the establishment of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Lower Canada.

We publish the above editorial article from the *L'Union Medicale du Canada*, with the view of letting the English members of the profession know what the promoters of the Medical Bill, which was introduced by the Hon. Mr. Chapleau, at the last Session of the Quebec Legislature, have to say in its favor. The article from the *Record*, which is criticised, was based upon general information which we had received; and as our contemporary has voluntarily entered the field to attack us and to defend the action of those who are the promoters of the Bill, we are justified in looking upon *L'Union Medicale* as their organ. Our contemporary informs his readers that we write but little and seldom. We, however, try always to have something to say when we do write, and though we would be sorry to assert that *L'Union Medicale* follows our example, yet, we venture to assure its editor that he might say a great deal more if he would write less, and we point to the article we have copied as an illustration. His advice we accept with thankfulness, although we venture to think that the re-action, which is generally the result of the treatment he suggests, would not realize the object which he seems to have in view. We have no desire to play the part of a thundering Jupiter, nor to dictate to the profession the course which they should pursue. That is left to the editor of *L'Union Medicale* and its friends, who, ignoring all constituted authority, desire to drive from power those who, for nearly thirty years, have guided the destinies of the Medical profession in this Province, and to erect in its stead, a new corporation, composed of those who, so far as we are able to judge, now, for the first time, shew the great interest they have in its welfare. We had and have a right to characterize such conduct as it, in our opinion, deserves; and we think still that we did not use too strong a phrase

when we said it was "*audacious*." If these self-constituted revolutionists feel that the present College of Physicians and Surgeons of Lower Canada, did not attain results, such as should be expected from such a corporation, there was a legitimate course of action open to them. If they had chosen to take this legitimate course, we would have willingly given them any assistance in our power. As, on the contrary, they have made no such attempt, but have thrown to the winds even any outward semblance of respect for the present organization, we have felt compelled to use such influence as we may possess to defeat the objects which they so loudly proclaim they have in view. We, of course cannot know all who have taken the initial steps in this movement, but we have sufficient information, however, to inform us that some of them are members of the College. As such, they are able to take part in its tri-annual meetings, and we have yet to be made aware of the first step they have taken to show either their interest in its present organization, or their desire it should be remodelled. It may be true, and we believe is true, that several Governors of the College have, for some time felt, that a change was necessary, and that their attempts to obtain such a change have not shown such vitality as to induce a due consideration of it from their fellow Governors. This we willingly admit to be true, but its truth only proves most forcibly the argument which we advance, and that is, that the members of the College themselves, are in reality to blame for this state of things. If, in 1874, those now active in this movement, felt that the Board of Governors, which retired that year, were opposed to any change in the constitution of the College, they should have appeared in force at the Tri-Annual Meeting which was held at Sherbrooke in that year, and there in open meeting expressed their opinion. If a promise, full and explicit, of prompt action, could not have been got from those seeking re-election, an attempt, at least, to obtain such a Board of Governors as would carry out a full measure of reform should have been made. We were present at that meeting, and nothing even approaching a murmur was heard, and the Governors of the College which were then elected had a right to think that the profession, as a whole were, at all events, not clamorous for a change. Perhaps it may be argued by the friends of this new Bill that, as members, they were numerically insignificant as compared with those members interested in Medical Schools. If this be true, even still a recourse was open to them. They could have increased their